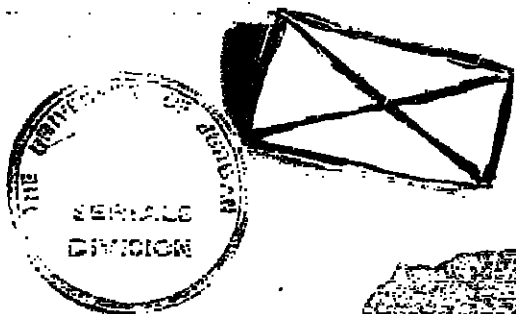


## Unofficial peace talks focus on Jerusalem

MILAN, Italy (R) — A conference which brought together Israelis and Palestinians for unofficial talks on Saturday suggested that a unified Jerusalem might serve in the future as both a Palestinian and Israeli capital. "Jerusalem is something that concerns two nations and not just Israel," said Najji Cingoli, director of the Italian Centre for Peace in the Middle East, which sponsored the three-day conference. "The Israeli side proposed making Jerusalem the capital of two states," Mr. Cingoli said. But he added that the Israeli delegates said such a proposal could only be considered at a much later stage after a framework for peace had been agreed. The conference was attended by left-wing Israeli officials, representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and officials of various other governments including the United States, Britain and Russia. Although the issue of Jerusalem was discussed, Israeli representatives said it was too early to bring Jerusalem into the bilateral Middle East peace talks under way in Washington. "The Israelis suggested that raising the issue of Jerusalem should be avoided in order not to create the additional barriers to the negotiating platform," said a statement issued at the end of the conference.



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## Regent inspects Amman areas

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who is Regent, Saturday visited several areas in Amman, including the Hussein Refugee Camp, Wadi Abdoun, and Ras Al Ain, where he inspected services provided by the government. Prince Hassan, accompanied by acting Prime Minister Ma'an Abu Nowar, Amman Governor Issa Al Omari and Amman Police Director Brigadier General Abdullah Al Hababeh, urged officials to take health protection precautions, particularly in the summer. The Crown Prince also stressed the need to provide basic services to areas which are lacking in various parts of Amman and urged authorities to deal with "unsound" conditions in the areas he visited. Immediately following the visit, a related meeting was held at the Prime Ministry.

## PLO releases 20 Abu Nidal activists

SIDON (AP) — Mainstream Palestinian group Fatah Saturday released 20 prisoners from the group headed by their arch-rival Abu Nidal. About 50 more Abu Nidal supporters will be freed in the next few days, Fatah said in a statement issued in 'Ain Al Hilweh, a Palestinian refugee camp on edge of Sidon. Fatah and Abu Nidal, supporters in Lebanon, have been assassinating each other in a chain of tit-for-tat attacks for the past year, killing at least 26 people.

## 29 go on trial in Egyptian court

CAIRO (AP) — A military trial of 29 Muslim extremists charged with robbing Christian-owned jewellery stores to finance terrorism began Saturday with chants of defiance and accusations of torture. "We are fighters who love our guns," the men shouted from inside black-barred cages as they awaited the arrival of three military officers who will decide whether most of them live or die. "We have a cause: to bring down the secular leader," As the judges entered the room, the clatter turned to religious slogans. Shortly after the trial started, the government's Middle East News Agency reported the arrest of nine suspects with weapons who were plotting unspecified terrorist attacks. Most of the nine are members of Al Shawkeen extremist group, the same organisation the defendants belong to. The trial in northeastern Cairo's Red Mountain military barracks took place in the courthouse where 22 Muslim extremists were convicted of assassinating President Anwar Sadat in 1981. Five were executed.

## Libya denies reports of Qadhafi visit

CAIRO (R) — A Libyan minister Saturday denied reports that Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi will visit Israel and said that 192 Libyan pilgrims who visited the Jewish state may be punished. "Reports that Colonel Muammar Qadhafi will visit Israel are not true," Libyan Foreign Minister Omar Al Muntassir told a press conference in Cairo where he is attending the Organisation of African Unity's foreign ministers meeting. He said that the visit to Israel of 192 Libyan pilgrims was personal and not planned by the government (Nathan heads for Libya, page 2).

## Two slain in Gaza Strip

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Palestinians pulled two suspected informers from their homes in a Gaza Strip refugee camp and killed them with shots to the head, Arab reporters said Saturday. Naawal Abdul Rasul, 30, a mother of five, was gunned down Friday night outside her home in the Bureij refugee camp. Wall graffiti said she was a prostitute and collaborator. Also in Bureij, assailants killed Ahmad Abdul Wahab Issa, 30, and dumped his body in a nearby village, Arab reporters said. Issa was released from an Israeli prison six months ago after having served six years as an activist of the PLO's mainstream Fatah faction. The assailants apparently suspected that Issa turned informer in prison, Arab reporters said.

## Opposition wins Moroccan polls

Coalition government foreseen

RABAT (Agencies) — Opposition parties scored a convincing victory in Morocco's parliamentary elections, giving them the chance to form the next government. Results published by the Interior Ministry Saturday showed the Nationalist Istiqlal and the left-wing Socialist Union of Popular Forces (USFP) top, with 91 of the 222 seats in Friday's election by direct popular vote. The USFP, which won 48 seats, and the Istiqlal, with 43 seats, put up joint candidates for the first time in the elections, which renewed two-thirds of the total 333 seats in parliament. King Hassan is expected to appoint the next prime minister from the opposition coalition. The Popular Movement, representing the Berber community, came third with 33 seats — the best result among the outgoing parliamentary majority. The two main groups in the outgoing parliament, the centre-right RNI movement of independent candidates and the Constitutional Union (CU), were among the biggest losers in the elections. The RNI winning 28 seats and the CU 27. For the first time two women were elected — Latifa Beannani-Smires, 48, a university professor and author of a book on Moroccan cuisine, who won on the Istiqlal ticket in the central city of Fez, and Badia Skalli, also a professor, the USFP candidate in the petroleum port of Mohammedia. Four Moroccan Jews who ran for different parties failed to get elected. The real gain for the opposition is about 50 per cent, less than apparent, because the number of seats in parliament has increased to 333 from 306 at the 1984 elections. Mohammad Al Yazghi, deputy USFP leader, said no one could yet say what the new parliament would look like because Morocco



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday tours the production facilities of a pharmaceutical plant outside Amman after inaugurating an expansion phase of the company (Petra photo).

## Regent: Jordan could be Singapore of Middle East

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday expressed hope that Jordan could attain the status of Singapore of the Middle East through promoting its industries in quality and quantity. "Jordan is totally committed to international standards and specifications and this has won the Kingdom a good reputation, especially in pharmaceuticals," the Regent said. He was speaking at the inauguration of a JD 5 million expansion phase of the Dar Al Dawaa pharmaceuticals. The Regent paid tribute to Jordanian pharmaceutical industries and expressed hope that new markets would be opened for them. "I am very optimistic that Jordan will enjoy better conditions and achieve better production despite its present difficult circumstances," he said. Dar Al Dawaa, one of five pharmaceutical firms in Jordan, has been exporting 70 per cent of its production, according to its manager, Mohammad Al Pitani. The Regent underlined the importance of the contribution to the economy and industry by Jordanian expatriates who have returned to Jordan. The expatriates' issue is being viewed at present merely from the point of view of compensation for their losses sustained during the Gulf crisis, but it will be examined from a "perspective of industrial integration" with a view to achieving pan-Arab and regional integration in industry, the Regent said. Minister of Industry and Trade Bassam Al Saket, who attended the ceremony, noted that Jordan exported JD 55 million worth of pharmaceuticals in 1992, accounting for 12 per cent of the Kingdom's foreign exchange earnings during the year. Noting that the five pharmaceutical firms employ a large number of Jordanians, the minister said Dar Al Dawaa's expansion would help boost production and open new markets for Jordan in Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia. Local production covers 59 per cent of the Kingdom's total needs, the minister said. He expressed hope that the local firms will diversify their production and contribute to reducing imports. Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas called on the local firms to exert efforts to produce raw materials needed for the pharmaceutical industry. Delegates attending the inauguration ceremony came from Yemen, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Sudan, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, France, Spain, Romania, Hungary and Nigeria. Deputy Prime Minister Maan Abu Nowar and ministers and senior government officials and high-ranking army officers attended the inauguration ceremony.

## U.S. says peace teams lack power

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — As Mideast peace talks ended another listless week, the State Department has complained that Arab and Israeli negotiators lacked authority to reach agreement. The critical statement could set the stage for a high-level trip to the Middle East later in the summer by Dennis Ross, top U.S. mediator, or even by Secretary of State Warren Christopher after one of his two scheduled trips to Asia in July. There Mr. Christopher or Mr. Ross could urge the leaders of Israel, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon, as well as top Palestinians, to make concessions in their positions in order to break the deadlock that has shadowed the talks, now in their 20th month. A decision is likely to be based on the outcome of next week's Arab-Israeli talks here. In the meantime, State Department officials worked on a suggested statement of principles to submit to Israeli and Palestinian negotiators. It would set out the key issues they should resolve. That apparently procedural step could carry far-reaching implications. For instance, Israel and the Palestinians are in sharp dispute over whether the future of Jerusalem belongs on the table. "We're at the end of a week," Mike McCurry, the department spokesman, said Friday. "The parties will have to provide their own evaluations as to the status of the talks, but they have been engaged in substantive dialogue. They'll continue their talks next week." And then Mr. McCurry went on to read from a statement prepared for him: "We're not yet satisfied that enough progress has been made or that the delegations have the authority to go beyond familiar positions. They'll need that authority now if they're going to move to where the process needs to go next." The current round, the 10th since October 1991, is likely to end next Thursday. Arab delegations have informed their hosts they intend to go home then, Mr. McCurry said. Later, a senior department official told reporters the parties are "getting into more serious, substantive engagement as they go into next week." He acknowledged that "the speculation has been that we are at a point now where we would really do something actively to help them identify the issues and bridge the gaps, and that's probably right." But he did not elaborate or offer details. While it has been widely reported that the United States has completed a draft of a document of principle to be submitted to the Israeli-Palestinian track of negotiations, the senior official told reporters: "To my knowledge there's not been a paper presented to anybody." The official who declined to be identified used a sports metaphor to describe the impasse that seems to have stalled the talks. "We're sort of saying (to the negotiators), 'you don't seem to have the authority to move the ball down the field, then someone does, right?'" the official said. The official stopped short of saying that the United States would go directly to whoever might have the political authority to make substantive changes in various parties' positions so that progress can be made. The Palestine delegation's spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi said that the United States should agree to the participation of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO). "If they want to upgrade the level of our delegation," Dr. Ashrawi said, "they should talk to our leadership." The PLO officially is excluded from the negotiations but the Palestinian delegation openly expresses its allegiance to the organisation. Dr. Ashrawi said earlier U.S. intervention could come in the form of a new plan for Palestinian self-rule in the occupied territories. "We have explained our concept of the plan in detail to State Department officials over the past 10 days and we believe they will come up with their own," Dr. Ashrawi said. "We do not know, however, what they will present," she added, noting that her side was most concerned over Israel's approach to Jerusalem. A source close to the Israeli delegation said the U.S. document could be submitted early next week. (Continued on page 5)

## Blind cleric involved in bomb plots — report

NEW YORK (Agencies) — A headline Egyptian cleric whose alleged followers are suspected of bombing the World Trade Centre and planning more attacks was recorded by an informant on tapes seized by the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) a newspaper reported Saturday. Authorities hope to use the tapes to build a case against Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, though many of his comments are indecipherable, according to the Daily News of New York, which quoted unidentified sources. Some U.S. Justice Department officials have called for the immediate arrest of the blind cleric, who lives in Jersey City, and preaches in New Jersey and New York. That was ruled out because "they didn't want to make a martyr out of him," a source told the news. Sheikh Abdul Rahman's apartment was raided Thursday hours after a joint task force arrested eight Muslim fundamentalists suspected of plotting to blow up the United Nations, a FBI building and two commuter tunnels in New York City. The alleged mastermind, Siddig Ibrahim Siddig Ali, sometimes acted as the cleric's interpreter, and several of the other suspects attended services where he preached, according to news reports (see page 2). The State Department said Friday the United States was "very disturbed" by continuing close ties between Sudan and Iran but has no evidence that Sudan has ever conducted or sponsored a terrorist act. Questions about a possible Sudanese link to the bomb plotters arrested Thursday in New York arose when it was disclosed that five of those detained are Sudanese nationals with permanent U.S. resident status. But State Department spokesman Mike McCurry said that, to his knowledge, the FBI has not established any links between the



FORMER FIRST LADY: Former U.S. President Richard Nixon (second left) stands with Billy Graham (left) and members of the Nixon family (right) as they view the body of Pat Nixon to the Richard Nixon Library where she was to be buried. Pat Nixon, 81, died June 22 at the Nixon home in Park Ridge, New Jersey, of lung cancer (AFP photo).

## Aided forces threaten Americans

MOGADISHU (Agencies) — Supporters of fugitive Somali warlord Mohammad Farah Aided threatened Saturday to kill hundreds of U.S. soldiers and civilians, hours after an American ship was attacked in Mogadishu port. General Aided's supporters said in a leaflet circulated here that unless United Nations peacekeepers in Somalia called off their hunt for Gen. Aided they would kill "1,500 soldiers or civilians from America inside or outside the country in a way of martyrdom never experienced in the world." The leaflet was addressed to "the warlord Mr. Howe" — a reference to Jonathan Howe, the U.N. special representative in Somalia. Admiral Howe ordered Gen. Aided's arrest after his militia were held responsible for killing 24 Pakistani peacekeepers in Mogadishu on June 5, and some U.N. officials saw the leaflet as a response to their own posters offering a reward for his capture. The killing of the peacekeepers triggered a wave of retaliatory air raids and a ground attack by U.N. forces against Gen. Aided's headquarters and weapons depots. The leaflet was signed by the "Muslim Brotherhood," but observers here suggested the term has been used loosely rather than to indicate a specific fundamentalist organisation. Earlier Saturday, the captain of an unarmed U.S. fuel tanker here to supply American forces serving under the United Nations described how his ship came close to going up in flames when three shells slammed into it as it was unloading in Mogadishu port on Friday. Captain John Withers of the American Osprey, part of the U.S. Navy's Sealift Command, said one of the shells smashed through the hull's 2.5 centimetre steel into a tank holding some of the cargo of more than 180,000 barrels of diesel fuel. "If it had hit a gasoline tank nearby there would have been a deep water port here now," said Capt. Withers. He said several members of the 36-man crew were on deck when the first shell hit and "everybody went running for cover." Three more shells — possibly rocket-propelled grenades — were fired, two of which struck the ship and exploded harmlessly while one missed. None of the crew was injured. There was no immediate sign of increased U.N. military activity in Mogadishu after the attack. Some 2,200 American Marines are being kept as reinforcements for the 18,000-strong U.N. force in four vessels offshore. Capt. Withers said his crew saw four missiles fired at the vessel from the shell-pocked Italian cathedral which overlooks the harbour about 1,500 metres away. Italian troops spent two hours searching for the gunmen on Friday night but found no trace, U.N. sources said.

## 12 Kurdish militants remanded in Germany

KARLSRUHE, Germany (Agencies) — Twelve Kurds have been remanded in custody for seizing the Turkish consulate in Munich and threatening to kill the 23 staff, the federal prosecutor's office said Saturday. A statement said the 12 were arrested Friday for threatening to kill their hostages unless German Chancellor Helmut Kohl told Ankara to "stop all combat action against the Kurdish population." The attack in Munich Thursday was the most spectacular of several incidents staged by Kurds on Turkish consulates and business in at least 13 cities in Western Europe. The militant separatist Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), fighting a guerrilla war against Ankara, took responsibility for the simultaneous attacks (see page 2). About 150 Kurdish militants demonstrated Saturday outside the Turkish consulate in the French port of Marseille, shouting slogans and burning a Turkish flag, police said. The demonstrators, protesting over what they said were massacres of Kurds, dispersed peacefully. A group of Kurds took several people hostage for three hours Thursday in the consulate in the southern port. Twenty-three people were held at gunpoint inside the Turkish consulate in Munich during the 14-hour siege. With sharpshooters surrounding the consulate, the kidnappers surrendered to one of Mr. Kohl's top aides after he negotiated with them. Germany's federal prosecutor's office said that on Friday night, an investigative judge with the federal supreme court ordered 12 of 13 suspects to remain in custody while charges of kidnapping and attempted coercion of the government are prepared. They are held in a Munich jail. The other suspect, a 15-year-old Kurd, was freed because there was no danger of his fleeing the country, the prosecutor's office said. The teenager is still under investigation. In other developments: — Turkey vowed to fight a "relentless" battle against Kurdish separatists. — Turkey's new Prime Minister Tansu Ciller said a "relentless" struggle would be waged against the PKK. — Iraqi Kurdish leaders, Jalal Talabani and Massoud Barzani, Saturday condemned the PKK attacks. — "Armed occupation of consulates, hostage taking and loss of life are acts which are considered terrorist and are condemned by the civilised world," they said in a joint statement. — Hundreds of Kurds demonstrated in Switzerland Saturday over the killing of a young Kurdish man outside Turkey's embassy in Berne, while Swiss authorities pressed Ankara to help investigations into the shooting. — The demonstrators defied police bans and marched through the streets of Zurich, Berne and Basle with banners saying "Stop the massacre in Kurdistan" and "Turkey, assassin."



# Middle East News

## Iraq said ready for new talks on oil sales

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Iraq has offered to resume U.N. talks on selling a small amount of oil in order to finance humanitarian supplies desperately needed by its people because of a U.N. trade embargo, according to diplomats.

A team of Iraqi negotiators could begin talks as early as July 5, according to the diplomats who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The offer was made by Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz who met Secretary-General Boutros Ghali Monday in Geneva.

A U.N. official briefed the Security Council on Dr. Ghali's meeting with the Iraqi official, but there was no formal U.N. statement or announcement.

The Security Council has offered to let Iraq sell \$1.6 billion in oil to help its own people and to finance other U.N. costs, such as monitoring and eliminating Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. Most of the revenue would go into U.N. coffers.

Iraq previously rejected the offer on grounds the strict U.N. supervision of any sale was offensive and a violation of its sovereignty. The last talks on a possible oil sale broke off more than a year ago in Vienna.

A sweeping U.N. embargo was imposed after Iraq troops invaded Kuwait in August 1990 and there are widespread reports of hardship and shortages.

A U.N. inspection team went to Iraq's nuclear centre Saturday to arrange for the removal to Russia of uranium that Baghdad could have used to make a bomb.

"Plans are according to schedule," a U.N. source said.

Ten nuclear experts led by American Bob Kelley of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) arrived in Baghdad Friday to arrange for the transfer.

"Kelley and his men are now in Tuweitha," the source said.

Tuweitha, in Baghdad's southern outskirts, is Iraq's main nuclear centre where the stockpiles of irradiated uranium the United Nations intends to move are kept.

Under terms of the 1991 Gulf war ceasefire, Iraq is required to dismantle its weapons of mass destruction and permit inspections by U.N. teams to monitor its weapons activities.

A chemical destruction team flew on Saturday to Muthana, 130 kilometres northwest of the capital, which is designated as a destruction site for Iraq's stocks of poisonous gases and chemical equipment.

A stand-off remains over Iraq's stalling on U.N. demands to have two sensitive cameras installed at rocket test sites and certain chemical production gear moved to a destruction site.

Last week the U.N. Security

Council warned Iraq of serious consequences if it did not heed to the demands immediately. But inspector Nikita Smidovich, a Russian, and his team of experts have been waiting for three weeks for Iraq to change its mind.

In Washington, U.S. President Bill Clinton said the standoff between Iraqi officials and United Nations weapons inspectors has become "quite serious" and must be resolved soon.

Mr. Clinton indicated continued support for the United Nations as it seeks to force Iraqi compliance with resolutions imposed on Baghdad under the ceasefire terms following the Gulf war.

Mr. Clinton's comments came as he answered questions on the south lawn of the White House, where he introduced the administration's newly appointed AIDS czar, Kristine M. Gebbie.

Mr. Clinton was asked by a reporter how seriously he viewed the latest standoff and what if anything he planned to do about it.

"It's quite serious," Mr. Clinton said. "You've already heard the U.N. speak to it, and I would expect that the matter will have to be resolved one way or the other in the fairly near future."

"I don't have much to add to the pronouncements that have come out of the U.N.," he said. "The United States has to continue to support compliance with the U.N. resolutions as they apply to Iraq."

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## Kurdish attacks complicate status of foreigners in Germany

BONN (AP) — Turks and Kurds who have lived side by side for decades are worried that attacks by Kurdish militants could inflame anti-foreigner sentiment and set back their quest for more civil rights and protection from neo-Nazi extremists.

German politicians Friday threatened to ban the Marxist Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) accused of coordinating Thursday's attacks in 16 German cities. The militants smashed bank and travel agency windows, and in Munich they held hostages for more than 14 hours.

The Kurds also targeted Turkish diplomatic missions and businesses in France, Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland and England.

In Turkey, Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin said his government had intelligence about preparations for further attacks on Turkish missions in Europe Saturday. He said it had warned several countries, but did not elaborate.

The violence continued Friday. Turks attacked a group of Kurds who had blockaded the Turkish consulate at Karlsruhe, in southern Germany. Police said they arrested 100 people after a brawl in which about six people were injured and a few cars vandalised.

Sympathy for foreigners in Germany had grown following a firebombing last month that killed five Turkish girls and women in Solingen. Liberal politicians have been calling for the 4.5 million long-time foreign residents to be given dual citizenship so they can vote, join the police and enter the civil service.

Thursday's attacks gave ammunition to conservatives who have argued that foreigners sow chaos in Germany and that dual citizenship will make the country a battleground for people with divided loyalties.

"It seems hard enough to get along already," said the lead editorial in the conservative Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. "Those who want a 'utopia' encompassing all peoples will also have to accept daily expressions of hatred between such peoples."

The 1.8 million Turkish residents of Germany include nearly 400,000 Kurds. The PKK has about 5,000 members in Germany and its banners often are seen at left-wing protests. Militant Turkish nationalists also are active.

"The PKK is a tiny group that damages the reputation of the Kurds, and unfortunately it's going to hurt us, too," said Nihat Deniz, a Turk who counsels the city of Solingen on relations with foreigners.

Leading politicians demanded that the PKK be banned. Interior Minister Rudolf Seiters said the hostage-takers might indeed be deported to Turkey and their organisation banned.

"We can't allow conflicts from other countries to be played out on German soil," he said.

The 20 million Kurds, divided politically and spread across Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Syria and Armenia, are the world's largest ethnic population without a country.

In Munich, 12 Turkish Kurds and a Beirut-born man whose nationality was not given went before a magistrate Friday on charges of kidnapping and attempted coercion of the German government.

The gunmen held 23 hostages at the Turkish consulate and demanded that Chancellor Helmut Kohl ask Turkey to stop a military offensive against Kurdish rebels fighting for an independent state in southeastern Turkey.

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NATHAN HEADS FOR LIBYA: Israeli peace campaigner Abie Nathan left Tunis Saturday on his way to Libya for a visit during which he hopes to meet Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi. Mr. Nathan, who was seen leaving his Tunis hotel (see photo above) escorted by a Libyan official, is the first Israeli to publicly acknowledge to receive a visa for Libya (AFP photo).

## Bomb plot suspect 'made mistakes'

NEW YORK (AP) — The accused mastermind of a plot to make New York an exploding mine field is a martial arts student who apparently forgot one of the first rules of war: Loose lips sink ships.

Siddiq Ibrahim Siddiq Ali, 32, and seven other men were being held without bail Friday in a bombing and assassination scheme. Whatever his criminal culpability, he clearly seemed guilty of other sins.

Unlike the elusive, shadowy extremists of fiction, Mr. Siddiq Ali liked a high profile. He was a fixture at El Sayyid Nosair's trial on charges of murdering militant Rabbi Meir Kahane, and has continued to support Mr. Nosair in prison.

He has raised funds for the defendants in the World Trade Centre bombing, and has translated for Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman at some of the blind Muslim preacher's most highly publicised appearances.

If the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) complaint against him is to be believed, Mr. Siddiq Ali made some serious mistakes: In need of an explosives expert, he did not recruit someone he'd known since birth, as a mafioso would, or insist on someone that had been passed through several intermediaries, as a veteran assassin would.

Instead, he allegedly took on a man he had known for a short time, and the man turned out to be a police informer. Mr. Siddiq Ali allegedly told him — though the plot in no way required the disclosure — of his plans to blow the United Nations, two Hudson

River commuter tunnels and the federal building in Lower Manhattan.

The confidential informant was identified in Saturday's editions of the New York Times as Emad Salem, 43, a former Egyptian military officer and occasional bodyguard and translator for the sheikh.

Mr. Siddiq Ali apparently knew of the risk of electronic eavesdropping on law enforcers, but his idea of subterfuge, the FBI said, was to refer to the United Nations as "the big house" and the federal building as "the centre."

His plans for the latter Mr. Siddiq Ali suggested, according to the complaint, that his band might get inside by killing the security guards outside. This prompted New York Newsday columnist Murray Kempton to express wonder at someone so inept as to think "a shootout in a public plaza as a discreet prelude" to a bombing.

Mr. Siddiq Ali also allegedly talked of his participation in tests to prepare for the trade centre bombing: boasted of "connections" that would get a car bomb under the United Nations, and uttered words apt to catch the ear of a juror or sentencing judge — "we can get you anytime."

In May, the New York Post said the FBI had learned that Arab extremists had targeted state assembly Dov Hikind for assassination — a reference, it now appears, to Mr. Siddiq Ali's group. But the alleged mastermind apparently never noticed anyone was on to him.

All this recalls the seeming naivete and ineptitude of the trade centre suspects, who used their real names and had apparently incriminating evidence in their homes.

Reaction to his arrest by those who knew Mr. Siddiq Ali also resembled the incredulous reaction to the trade centre arrests, which began after a suspect sought a refund from a truck-rental agency. Listen to David Silver, head of personnel at National Kinney Co., the security agency that employed Mr. Siddiq Ali as a guard from 1988 until 1991:

"He was an excellent employee. When he'd come by the office he was polite, clean cut, well-spoken... the client where he worked raved about him. When they had to lay him off, they made us promise we'd find something else for him."

Born in Sudan in 1960, Mr. Siddiq Ali came to the United States in 1988, settled in the Bronx and got a driver's licence and a job driving a car. But by 1992 his licence had been revoked twice and suspended twice. He had also lost his guard's job at a real estate firm because of the recession.

So he began selling T-shirts at street fairs, translating for the sheikh, and taking karate lessons. He lived in Jersey City with his wife, a Trinidad native whom he met while wearing the guard's uniform.

Mr. Silver, at the security agency, said he did not know any more about Mr. Siddiq Ali, had a question of his own: "How does such a wonderful person become such a monster?"

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Guerrillas attack Israeli allies in Lebanon

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (R) — Guerrillas set off a bomb near an Israeli-backed militia patrol in South Lebanon Saturday, security sources said. The bomb exploded as the South Lebanon Army (SLA) patrol passed on a road in Seeda area, officially outside Israel's South Lebanon "security zone" but under its control. No Israeli soldiers were hurt, the sources added. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the bomb attack. On Friday, a guerrilla bomb killed an SLA officer and his son in Houla village in the zone and Israeli helicopters blasted a Palestinian office.

### Sudan says it will take aid to south

KHARTOUM (AFP) — The Sudanese leader, Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al-Bashir, has vowed that his government is prepared to take responsibility for delivering relief to rebel-controlled areas in southern Sudan. Gen. Bashir, addressing a mass rally in Wau, in the Bahri Al Ghazal state of southern Sudan, said his administration would act of international agencies maintained what he called their reluctance to distribute some 153,000 tonnes of aid allocated by the government for civilians in rebel-held territory. Gen. Bashir, who spoke Thursday and whose comments were carried Friday by state television, has insisted that residents of rebel-held areas are Sudanese citizens for whom the government bears responsibility.

### 99 Byzantine-era gold coins found in Caesarea

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Ninety-nine gold coins from the Byzantine era have been found near the Roman ruins at Caesarea in northern Israel, the antiquities department announced. The 24-carat gold coins were stamped with the heads of seven different Roman emperors on one side and soldiers in armor on the other, and were in perfect condition, department officials said Friday. Pottery and oil lamps from the same period were also discovered.

### Seven die in rocket attack on Kabul

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — At least seven people were killed and 19 injured in a rocket attack on Kabul Friday, Afghanistan's state-run radio said. A Kabul Radio broadcast monitored here said that the attack was mounted from the southern edge of the capital. The attack resulted in the destruction of two houses in a residential area. It said that a total of 15 rockets slammed into the city causing widespread damage to property. The attack came despite a ceasefire between the two forces of President Burhanuddin Rabbani and his political adversary Gulbuddin Hekmatyar who was sworn-in as prime minister of the war-ravaged country a few days ago.

### Israeli legislators are Ashkenazi with 3.5 children

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's "typical" member of parliament is Israeli-born, comes from a Western background, is 45 years old, has served in the army, holds a university degree and has at least three children. The profile, presented by Israel Radio Saturday, was compiled from a new brochure, "Who's Who in Parliament." The two main training grounds for lawmakers are the army and municipal government, said parliament speaker Shimon Peres. Twenty-one of the 120 lawmakers reached the rank of major or higher, and another 45 were lower-level officers, Mr. Weiss said. Only 20 legislators did not serve in the armed forces, most ultra-orthodox Jews exempted from the draft. Twenty-six lawmakers started their political career in municipal government, Mr. Weiss said. In several areas, the parliament is atypical of Israeli society. Legislators have an average of 3.5 children, compared to 2.3 children per couple in the general population. Some 65 per cent hold at least a bachelor's degree, compared to a little over 10 per cent in the general population. Sixty-one lawmakers are Israeli-born, and come from a Western, or Ashkenazi, background. Only 12 are Israeli-born of Middle Eastern, or Sephardi, descent.

### 15 die in rebel Kurdish violence in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Fifteen people including six women were killed in separate rebel incidents Saturday in southeast Turkey, officials said. Rebels from the separatist Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) killed the women and two men in Koyunlu village of Mardin province, Anatolia news agency said. It gave no other details. A statement from the emergency state governor's office said Turkish security forces killed three PKK militants in Baskale town, three others in Batman province and one in Erzurum in separate clashes Saturday. They found bodies of five PKK members who they said were killed by other group militants because of internal strife.

### 'Bombing was attempt to kill prelates'

BEIRUT (AP) — Police said Friday their investigators have determined that a bomb blast near the site of a Catholic-Orthodox unity conclave was an abortive attempt to assassinate some of the gathered priests. Two Muslim men were killed and a third was wounded in the explosion Tuesday night on a road bridge five kilometres west of the ancient Orthodox Balamand Monastery in north Lebanon, where a theological dialogue was held. A police statement said the bomb went off minutes before a police-escorted bus carrying several of the 37 churchmen attending the conclave arrived at the bridge on the way back to Balamand from a dinner banquet in Lebanon's Syrian-controlled northern city of Tripoli.

### Sunni leader urges 'holy war' in Bosnia

CAIRO (AFP) — A representative of Sunni Muslims' highest spiritual leader told tens of thousands of people here that waging "holy war" in Bosnia is now the duty of every Muslim. Sheikh Gamal Qotb, representing the grand imam of Al Azhar, Sheikh Gad Al Haq Al Haq Al Haq urged a crowd of tens of thousands to "support the oppressed people of Bosnia" at a rally here on Friday. The rally was organised by a committee of support for Bosnia set up by the fundamentalist-dominated engineering union, Sheikh Qotb derided what he called the "discriminatory" policies of the United Nations. He said the U.N. had no qualms about sending troops to Somalia but "ignores" violations of its resolutions and the odious massacres of Muslims in Bosnia.

## Talabani demands lift of siege before negotiations

ERBIL (AFP) — Iraqi Kurdish leader Jalal Talabani Friday said Baghdad must lift an embargo of Kurdish-held regions before there can be a resumption of negotiations between the two sides.

"I won't refuse if an Iraqi government representative came to Erbil to talk to us. But if Baghdad wants to negotiate with us it must create a proper climate; like lifting the blockade and allowing the people to change their money," the head of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) said.

He said negotiations, which were severed after the end of the Gulf war in 1991 following a failed Kurdish rebellion, could resume if the Baghdad government agreed to democratic change in Iraq.

Mr. Talabani was speaking to reporters after a two-month tour of the United States as well as several other Western and Middle East countries to gather sup-

port for Iraqi opposition groups. He said the policies of the new U.S. administration consisted in supporting the establishment of democracy in Iraq instead of a military coup to overthrow Saddam Hussein.

The Iraqi National Congress (INC) has been assured by Washington to get full support for all steps leading to democracy, Mr. Talabani said in reference to a coalition of Iraqi opposition groups.

A senior U.S. official said Monday that the INC was gaining legitimacy in the Arab World as an alternative to President Saddam and has now recognised by key states such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Egypt, the Washington Post reported.

U.S. officials consider Riyadh's recognition of the INC as a major success for Washington's foreign policy and an important step towards international legitimacy of the group, the Post said.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDER

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 73111-19

PROGRAMME TWO  
17:30 R & V  
17:40 Les Odes de Fort Boyard  
19:00 News in French  
19:15 Le Journal de L'histoire  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic



## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

## Regent congratulates Madagascar, Djibouti presidents

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday sent a cable to Madagascar President Didier Ratsiraka congratulating him in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government on his country's national day. Prince Hassan wished Mr. Ratsiraka good health and happiness and the people of Madagascar further progress and prosperity. The Crown Prince sent a similar cable to Djibouti President Hassan Gouled also congratulating him on his country's national day.

## Minister, envoys visit Bosnian families

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Education and Higher Education Khaled Al Omari Saturday visited Bosnian families hosted by the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation (JHCO) at Umm Teena School in the Jabal Jofeh area of Amman. Dr. Omari said the aim of the visit was to be acquainted with the educational needs of the families. He said Bosnian students can join Jordanian universities or secondary schools when their educational performance allows it. The minister was accompanied by the cultural attaches of Algeria, Oman, Yemen, Sudan, Tunisia, Libya, the United Arab Emirates, Palestine, Qatar and a delegate from the Bosnian embassy in Amman. Dr. Omari and the accompanying team of diplomats were received by Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Abdul Salam Al Abbadi who briefed them on the JHCO objectives and activities in the fields of relief, development and culture.

## Tawjihi exams end

AMMAN (Petra) — The second term of the General Secondary Examination Certificates, better known as Tawjihi, ended Saturday for all secondary education streams. A total of 73,242 students distributed over 975 examination halls sat for the exam. One of these halls was in Tunisia, especially prepared for Arab students studying by the Jordanian curricula. Minister of Education and Higher Education Khaled Al Omari told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the examinations went well, pointing out that the ministry will take into consideration students' remarks and complaints concerning the examinations. The director of the ministry's Department of Examinations and Educational Assessment said the process of correcting the answer sheets will start Sunday in Amman and Irbid. He said the ministry this year assigned more than 4,000 teachers to take part in the correction and evaluation process.

## Housing minister meets with engineers, contractors

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works and Housing Khalaf Hawari Saturday met with the presidents and members of the association of Jordanian engineers and construction contractors. In the two separate meetings, the minister reviewed the two associations' cooperation between the ministry and their institutions.

## Ghor Safi hospital to rise to 33 beds

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Abdul Rahim Malhas Saturday decided to increase the number of beds at Ghor Safi Hospital to 33. The measure is designed to enable the hospital to increase its capacity to receive patients and to provide the best services to citizens.

## Environment workshop opens

AMMAN (Petra) — A specialised workshop on the environment opened Saturday at the University of Jordan. The week-long workshop, organised by the university's Centre for Water and Environmental Research and Studies in cooperation with Washington State University in the United States, will include lectures by specialised professors from both universities on the effects of the agricultural and industrial sectors on the environment, the pollution of underground water, soil erosion and air pollution. The workshop's programme also includes visits to several environmental projects in the Kingdom.

## Danish labour union member arrives for talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Member of the Danish Labourers Union Mohammad Al Mansouri arrived in Amman Saturday on a two-week visit to Jordan to discuss with the secretary general of the Federation of the Jordanian Labour Unions and heads of labour unions scopes of cooperation with the Danish concern. Mr. Mansouri said during his visit to Jordan he will resume talks conducted by a Jordanian labour delegation which visited Denmark recently and the Danish Federation. These talks focused on the prospect of assisting the Jordanian labour unions by conducting rehabilitation courses in Denmark for Jordanian workers, he said, adding that the Danish labourers union might pay the costs of establishing a rehabilitation centre for Jordanian labourers and offer mini-buses for the Jordanian federation. Mr. Mansouri said the secretary general of the federation has extended an invitation to the president of the Danish union of specialised workers to visit Jordan next September to be familiarised with the demands and needs of the Jordanian federation.

## Ramtha combats rodents

RAMTHA (Petra) — Al Ramtha Municipality Saturday began a campaign aimed at combating rodents with pesticides in Ramtha city. Ramtha Mayor Abdul Aziz Thiyabat said the Greater Amman Municipality has delegated a technical team to define the types of rodents plaguing the city and to determine the quality of the needed pesticides to exterminate them. He said the Amman Municipality has hosted and trained a team from Al Ramtha on ways of combating rodents and the Ramtha municipality has purchased adequate quantities of pesticides. Mr. Thiyabat expressed the municipality's readiness to offer technical assistance to rural and municipal councils in Ramtha district in this battle.

## Pesticide spraying in Muwaqqar ends

AMMAN (Petra) — A 10-day pesticide spraying campaign organised by the Amman Agriculture Department in cooperation with the Muwaqqar Agriculture Centre and Municipality ended Friday. Director of Amman agriculture department Mohammad Al Lawzi said the campaign was aimed at spraying fruit trees in Muwaqqar district. The department, he said, provided the spraying tractors and pesticides. He added that the department will organise a similar campaign in Al Abdaliyah area in Sahab district next week.

## Cabinet endorses regional power link-up

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers Saturday endorsed the minutes of meetings by energy and electricity ministers of Turkey, Jordan, Syria, Iraq and Egypt, who met recently in Amman and signed agreements to link their countries' power grids. The Cabinet also approved Jordan's participation in the 40th Damascus International Fair.

It said Jordan's involvement aims at promoting economic ties with Syria and the sale of Jordanian national products there and in other countries.

Jordan is also to take part in an agricultural fair to take place in the United Kingdom. There, representation will promote the sale of Jordanian products in the European Community (EC) markets.

The Cabinet statement said that Jordan will display products of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) projects in addition to agricultural products.

The Cabinet approved Jordan's participation in an Arab youth camp to be held in Damascus between July 25 and August 10.

## Turkish foreign minister postpones visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmat Cetin has postponed his visit to Jordan until the new Turkish government, in which he retains the same post, has won a vote of confidence from Parliament in Ankara.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Amman Saturday confirmed the postponement of the visit, but noted that a new date will be fixed later.

Mr. Cetin was due to arrive in Amman today (Sunday) at the head of an official delegation for a three-day visit as part of a tour of the Arab region.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said several regional and international issues are on the agenda of the Turkish minister's meetings with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and senior government officials.

Turkey's New Prime Minister Tansu Ciller, Friday announced a coalition cabinet in which she kept the same defence and foreign and deputy prime minister.

## Sharif Fawwaz briefs Parliament speakers on human rights meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi Saturday received Jordan's permanent envoy to the United Nations Geneva headquarters Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf who headed Jordan's delegation to the World Conference on Human Rights that concluded in Vienna recently.

Mr. Lawzi and Sharif Fawwaz discussed Jordan's role in the conference and the importance of the address delivered by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, dealing with Jordan's role in the field of protecting human rights, freedoms and democracy.

Sharif Fawwaz briefed the Upper House speaker on the positive aspects of the conference's concluding statement on the right

of peoples to self-determination and its significance to the Palestinian people as well as the right to development by the world's nations and the need for them to participate in achieving progress.

Sharif Fawwaz was also received by Lower House Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat and briefed him on the activities of the Jordanian delegation at the conference and efforts exerted by him concerning the status of the 10 Jordanians sentenced to death recently by Kuwaiti courts.

Jordan's U.N. envoy said intensive contacts were conducted with the concerned sides at the conference, saying the Lower House of Parliament's statement on the issue was circulated to delegations participating in the conference.

## Ministry to forest 30,000 dunums yearly

AMMAN (Petra) — Since the early 1960s land planted with fruit trees or vegetables in Jordan has been steadily increasing at the rate of 15,000 to 20,000 dunums annually, and the country now has an estimated half a million dunums of cultivated food-producing land, according to the Agriculture Ministry.

In a statement released Saturday, the ministry said it plans to plant forest trees at the rate of 30,000 dunums annually in order to achieve the national goal of greening the Kingdom by the year 2000.

Noting that the total area of Jordan is estimated at 90 million dunums, the statement said enormous efforts on the part of institutions and citizens are needed to increase vegetation areas.

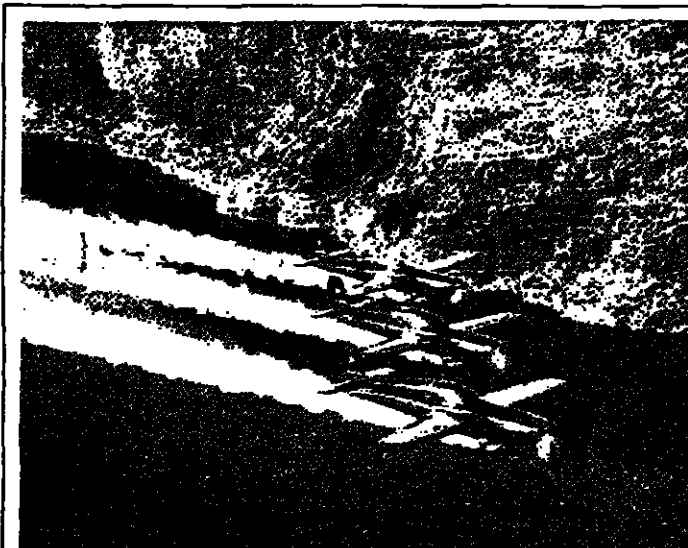
Trees and farming help prevent soil erosion and fight off desertification, the statement explained.

To help carry out the greening project, the ministry has, since the 1940s, maintained sapling nurseries. The country now has 13 nurseries which produce nine million saplings distributed to farmers, organisations and individual citizens at a nominal price.

Unfortunately fires constitute the main source of danger to wooded areas and these occur at the rate of 100 fires a year, said the statement.

It said that on January 15 each year, Arbor Day in Jordan, saplings are distributed free of charge along with leaflets emphasising the importance of planting as many trees as possible year round and warning against fires.

The statement outlined measures being taken in the forest regions such as setting up control and monitoring towers and the employment of rangers to help guard against fires.



AIR SHOW: Jordan's Royal Falcons, a group of nine pilots and engineers, left Amman for Brussels to present aerial acrobatics over several Belgian cities starting early July. The team will also take part in an international air show to be held in the United Kingdom next month.

## Global communication must recognise cultural differences — former minister

By Sa'eda Kilani  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — While strongly calling for "global journalists" and more communication among countries to enhance human rights, the former Minister of Information, Mahmoud Al Sharif, warned of cultural specificities and differences that have to be taken into consideration.

In his address to the Central Committee of the World Association of Christian Communication (WACC), the former minister insisted on the need for more communication with other countries and understanding of other peoples different religions and cultures.

"I believe that the global village requires global journalists," said Mr. Sharif in his opening speech. "By the global journalist, I mean he who, besides having his own views and beliefs, tries incessantly to transcend, to reach out, to cross the boundaries towards other people's cultures and beliefs... to communicate, to understand and even sometimes to sympathise."

Mr. Sharif, who chaired the meeting, entitled, "Human Dignity and Communication," gave an overall assessment of the situation in Jordan concerning human rights and democracy and the Kingdom's efforts to enhance communication with other countries.

He stressed, however, that it must not be complete openness since there are certain principles of human rights which can be applied in other regions of



Former Minister of Information Mahmoud Al Sharif Saturday addresses the Central Committee of the World Association of Christian Communication.

the globe, but cannot be implemented in Muslim-Jordan.

"In your culture, you produce pornographic magazines," Mr. Sharif said. "I wouldn't allow such publications to enter the country... our culture is different."

Mr. Sharif said the introduction of such pornographic films and magazines might negatively influence children. "There is a limit... you have to protect children from corruption," he said. "This (censorship) can also be seen in England."

Still, Mr. Sharif pointed out that the government did not block communication with other countries, but on the contrary, it has allowed the installation of satellite dishes and the Jordan Television Corporation will soon begin to broadcast six new channels including the U.S. Cable News Network (CNN) on a subscription basis.

Members of the WACC's central committee, who came from 22 different countries, voiced their concern over the lack of communication between Jordan and the other countries, some saying that they had never heard of Jordan.

"People can hardly know each other... how can we get each other together," said one participant from the Philippines who criticised the Jordanians' lack of knowledge of his country and absence of communication between the two countries.

"When I was the minister of information," Mr. Sharif said, "we used to broadcast films on all countries... on their national days."

Other participants, who also voiced their lack of knowledge of the country as a whole, raised questions over Jordan's policy in shaping democracy in

## Democratic Arab Unity Party to hold congress July 9

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — As a first step in the selection of political party candidates for the next general election, expected to be held this fall, the Democratic Arab Unity Party (DAUP) will hold a party congress July 9, said senior party officials Saturday.

"We will be discussing both our party's platform as well as procedures for the legislative elections when we meet on July 9," said Anis Muasher, one of the three nominal heads of the DAUP.

Among the many issues expected to be discussed during the congress is what kind of electoral law changes they will support.

"We believe that a one-person one-vote formula is good in the context of broader changes such as redrawing of electoral districts and the holding of primary as well as secondary elections," Mr. Muasher told the Jordan Times.

DAUP, along with the 18 other licensed political parties as well as many independent politicians, is eagerly awaiting the convening of a national conference or congress on a change in the electoral law which His Majesty King Hussein called for within the coming



Anis Muasher

month or months.

But whether or not there will be a change in the election law, DAUP will field candidates in the fall elections.

According to Mr. Muasher, who is one of three rotating leaders of DAUP, the party will field candidates in several, but not all, of the existing electoral districts.

And the party has thus far agreed to provide "at least" one female candidate.

Names of candidates and names of districts are yet to be disclosed, as is the unfolding of what Mr. Muasher called a "sound economic formula to reduce unemployment in the King-

dom."

Candidates, representing this centrist pan-Arab party, may run on joint tickets with members of any of the 12 pan-Arab, centrist and left-wing parties that are already licensed, said Mr. Muasher.

Regular meetings between the "centre-left wing coalition," as Mr. Muasher described, have been taking place for months.

DAUP supports business oriented and free market policies on the economic front, while being pan-Arab on the political front.

"Unemployment and economic growth coupled with gradual development of the democratic process is our number one concern," said Mr. Muasher when asked about his party's first priority.

Unlike many traditional pan-Arab and left-wing parties, DAUP is more programme oriented.

"We can't implement social and political policies without being economically sound as a country, and that is why DAUP is stressing economic welfare as the number one concern," said one former leftist turned successful businessman and member of DAUP.

## Visiting food aid chief tours projects Minister calls for emergency drought assistance

AMMAN (J.T.) — Catherine Bertini, executive director of the World Food Programme (WFP) now on an official visit to Jordan has toured several WFP-financed projects in the Kingdom. These included the village of Um Jozeh, Wafsi Tall Forest in Salt, Greibeh Village in Zarqa and the forests of Dibbin and Ajloun together with a number of agricultural projects executed in Jordan and estimated to be worth \$30 million.

The WFP, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, provides food to needy families, school children and community centres in the rural regions within the framework of a four-year WFP-Jordanian agreement costing \$6 million.

Petra reported that Minister of Agriculture Marwan Kamal Saturday called on the WFP to provide emergency assistance to Jordan to help it cope with the effects of the drought that has hurt more than 97,000 families working in the agricultural sector, in addition to cattle breeders who were severely affected by a 62.3 per cent reduction in pasture lands compared with previous years.

In a meeting between the WFP delegation and representatives of the ministry of agriculture, headed by Dr. Kamal, the minister said the strategy of future cooperation between the Jordanian government and the WFP will be based on preserving basic agricultural resources, protecting the environment and enhancing women's participation in developing the rural areas, all with

the objective of achieving a sustainable agricultural development process.

He said a technical team from the WFP visited Jordan earlier to examine the effects of drought, and has prepared a report on the outcome of its visit and its observations, "which raises hope of the prospect of the WFP's responding to Jordanian requests in this regard."

Dr. Kamal underlined the need for the programme to increase its allocations for "non-food activities" and direct more funds towards preparing training programmes and providing equipment for farmers.

The WFP's contributions to Jordan were linked to the Kingdom's per capita income and they should now be changed accordingly, the minister said.

He said the projects implemented currently in Jordan through WFP support depend on providing food supplies adding that the programme currently contributes to providing food supplies to two \$30 million projects (the Highlands Development Project and the Forests and Pasture Lands Development Project), which are due to be finished in 1995 and 1997.

Ms. Bertini pledged more active WFP participation in joint ventures with the Jordanian government to develop the Kingdom's agricultural and animal wealth, stressing the keenness of the programme to develop and bolster its relations with Jordan in tackling the harmful effects of the drought.

She also expressed relief over

her visit Friday to several agricultural projects financed by the programme.

At the end of the meeting, the two sides decided to form working groups comprising representatives of both sides to study scopes of bilateral cooperation, particularly in developing water collection sites and reservoirs with the objective of increasing the area of agricultural land, and consequently Jordanian agricultural produce.

Speaking to the Jordan News Agency following the meeting, Ms. Bertini said the WFP will seriously study Jordanian proposals on developing cooperation between the two sides, as well as the report prepared by the programme's team on the effects of the drought and means of helping Jordan overcome this crisis.

She said the aim of her visit to Jordan was to be familiarised with the extent of development achieved in projects financed by the programme, affirming that her visit to Jordan, her first since she took over her post, was extremely useful.

Ms. Bertini's visit includes a meeting with Her Royal Highness Princess Basma to discuss WFP's assistance to the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAF) projects in rural regions of the country.

She is also scheduled to meet several senior officials at the ministries of Agriculture, Planning and Education whose departments are directly linked to the WFP projects in the country.

The WFP has been providing assistance to Jordan since 1964.

## Activists urge women to seek leading posts

KARAK (Petra) — Political action is the right of every citizen in the country and is not confined to a certain group or to men; therefore women are urged to seek leading positions in the executive and legislative authorities, said Huda Fakhouri Saturday in a working paper.

At a seminar on women's involvement in Jordan's social, economic and political life, held in Karak, Dr. Fakhouri called on Jordanian women to take an active role in the political sphere.

Chaired by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, the meeting drew several leading members of women's unions in Jordan.

Dr. Fakhouri said Jordanian women won their right to vote and to run for Parliament in 1974; and an amendment to the Municipalities Law in 1984 entitled women in Jordan to vote in municipal elections.

She called on the media and information services to back women's endeavours in exercising their right to become actively involved in the political arena.

Rajaa Abu Ghazaleh a Jordanian writer, presented a working paper entitled "Women and Creativity," treating women's artistic work which, she said, was of no less value and quality than men's work.

Attorney Ina'am Abul Hadi's working paper at the seminar dealt with women and Jordanian legislation. It focused on women's participation in public life.

Noting that women's involvement so far has been far less than aspirations, Ms. Abdul Hadi stressed the need for women to participate in economic and social life, stressing that it was their right as provided for by the Jordanian Constitution.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

## EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of watercolours, entitled "Landscapes of Jordan," by Prof. Elmar Dittmann at the Phoenix Art Gallery, Gardens Street.
- ★ Paintings by Salem Al Dabbagh, Himat Ali and Karim Rasan at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery (10 a.m.-6 p.m.).
- ★ Art exhibition by 26 Jordanian artists at Eshebeela Art Gallery, 6th Circle, Amra Shopping Centre.
- ★ Photo exhibition entitled "Childhood" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings in watercolour, oil and acrylics by Mrs. Heidi Evers at the British Council — opening ceremony at 6 p.m.

## FILM

- ★ Feature film entitled "Memphis Belle" at the American Centre at 6 p.m.

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**Husam Hanna Hamarneh**  
 B.Sc. Geology, University of Jordan



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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## Guilty of stereotyping — still

IN ITS efforts to fight terrorism and ensure the safety of its cities and its citizens, the United States, like any other country, has a right — and indeed a duty — to do everything possible. But in its pursuit of sensationalism and news that can sell, the U.S. media are going beyond the limits of what is ethically acceptable, professionally permissible.

Write about the Middle East, throw in a few sentences about radical Islam, speculate about the threat it poses to Western civilisation and speak of terrorism, and you will have the ingredients of a story that will instantly dominate front page headlines and prime-time news. This is exactly what some U.S. media organisations seem to be doing in covering the arrests of eight people in relation to terrorist-related activities.

There is no solid evidence as yet that the New York eight are working with any Islamist or Arab "terrorist" organisation(s). In fact, and according to American law, those people, six of whom are Arabs, are innocent until found guilty in a court of law. That some American media organisations seem to have forgotten, or chose to forget.

Reporting developments in the case, one American television network wasted no time in bringing in the suspicious Middle East connection. "Middle East terrorists," headlined the story on the suspects. Another American wire organisation played on the catchy terms of peace and terrorism and filed a story in which it claimed that the United Nations "a symbol of peace and brotherhood...has become the target for Islamic terrorists." The agency spiced its article with such phrases as radical Islam, fundamentalism, Middle Eastern grudges; words that are sure to catch the attention of a Western audience often manipulated by biased media that promoted negative stereotypes and misconceptions.

Such irresponsible reporting is doing the world at large an injustice whose potential is as frightening as the alleged conspiracies of the New York eight.

Arabs living in the West have often been the target of hatred waves and revenge sparked by news reporting that held a whole nation responsible for the acts of some individuals. That must stop and that is as ugly and damaging as the less subtle terrorist acts that wreak havoc in the West and in the Middle East.

We condemn terrorism wherever it occurs and for whatever cause. We condemn the New York trade centre blast as much as we condemn the massacre of hundreds of Arabs by Israeli forces on the streets of Jerusalem — a much older and a more credible symbol of world peace than the U.N. But we also condemn attempts to discredit a whole nation for the sake of increased profit and reader/viewership.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RAY Arabic daily described His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Washington as a complete success that contributed towards bolstering Jordanian-U.S. relations at all levels. Indeed, the King's talks with President Clinton, the secretary of state and Senate and Congress leaders were instrumental in opening a new chapter of close cooperation between Amman and Washington and in giving impetus to the ongoing Arab-Israeli peace negotiations, said the daily. This view has been backed by Secretary of State Warren Christopher who praised the King, his leadership and his wise policies, the paper pointed out. Furthermore, and according to Arab and American observers, the visit had a most positive effect on the current Arab countries' drive to involve the United States as a full partner in the Arab-Israeli negotiations, continued the daily. The visit gave King Hussein a good opportunity not only to mend Jordan's fences with the United States in the aftermath of the Gulf disaster, but also to present the Arab case before the U.S. administration which holds all the cards in the current peace process, the paper added. It was a chance for the King to outline to the Clinton administration Jordan's firm stand vis-a-vis various regional and international issues, it said. The paper said that the positive outcome of the King's visit to the United States was bound to manifest itself in the form of a fruitful cooperation between the two countries in the near future.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dastour daily described the Palestinians' current endeavours to train policemen and to set up a television and radio station as part of a process to lay down the foundation and the infrastructure of an independent Palestinian state. Saleh Al Qallab criticised those who oppose such a move, noting that the Palestinians, whether under an autonomous rule or independence, should have well-established institutions to organise their social, economic and political life. I really cannot interpret certain circles' claims that such moves are part of a conspiracy against the Palestinian people, said the writer. The infitrah, he added, constituted a clear success for the Palestinians and their continued efforts to rid themselves of the occupation rule. He said that by laying the infrastructure for their future state, the Palestinians would be achieving further successes. The police force and the radio station are only small steps, but necessary elements for any Palestinian entity and essential moves that contribute towards the emergence of a Palestinian state based on a strong and solid foundation, he concluded.

## Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Al Fanek

### Poverty

## Is it under control?

It is the duty of a decent society, like ours, to pay full attention to the problem of poverty, and to do all that can be done to help the poor and raise their standard of living to an acceptable level, either through training, retraining, and creating productive jobs when possible, or by extending a helping hand in direct cash payments when necessary.

Jordan is one of the countries that takes the issue of poverty seriously, and cares about the poor. During the last five years the government commissioned three studies and surveys to shed light on poverty pockets; they were done in 1987, 1991 and 1993. As far as remedies are concerned, we created the Development and Employment Fund, which is charged with the responsibility of creating jobs and financing small businesses and self-employment through soft loans. We enhanced the National Assistant Fund with a respectable growing budget to make monthly cash payments to families that are absolutely poor. Queen Alia Fund and Queen Nour Foundation are extremely active in promoting productive operations, especially in the countryside and the Badia, not to mention around 700 public service societies and charities which are concerned with helping certain segments of the society.

We have to also take into account the vital, free of charge, services made available by the government, such as education and medical services, the subsidies to basic food stuffs, especially bread, which is sold at 50 per cent of the actual cost and other measures.

This is not meant to play down the problem of poverty or to relieve the government from its responsibilities. It is only to put the problem in perspective and reveal the exaggerations which hurt and damage the image of Jordan, either with good or bad intentions.

An example of well-intended exaggeration is what the UNICEF report of 1991 did when it suggested that the line of poverty in Jordan covers "around 30 per cent" of the population, which the foreign and local press quoted as "over one third of the population". The purpose of the UNICEF report was at the time to raise funds and financial aid to help the Jordanian children during the Gulf crisis.

An example of bad intention is the story in "Al Khaleej" newspaper, published on May 11, 1993, which found some Jordanian weeklies ready to republish it, as if Al Khaleej were a scientific authority that could be treated as a reference or source of objective information about Jordan.

The United Arab Emirates newspaper claimed that the poverty survey was conducted by the Jordanian government for submission to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. This is not true. The information is needed by the economic and social decision-makers in Jordan in both the public and private sectors.

The newspaper attributed to the Ministry of Planning the fact that the purpose of the survey was to determine the connection between poverty and unemployment. The ministry could not have given this explanation to the Gulf newspaper, simply because the relation between poverty and unemployment is taken for granted. Of course, those who are employed and draw monthly salaries may be classified as low or limited-income groups, but they are by no means considered poor.

The second purpose of the study, suggested by the newspaper, is to connect poverty with the implementation of the economic adjustment programme agreed upon with the IMF. In fact, the success of the programme should help the poor. All the policies and measures taken under the programme favoured the poor in no ambiguous terms, as is evident in new laws or upon increasing the prices of certain commodities in a way to protect the poor.

Finally, the newspaper claimed that the vast majority of the poor are those working for the government. This is obviously false because government salaries are normally above JD 119 a month, which is the line of poverty in Jordan for a family of 6-8 members. Poverty exists in Jordan and in all countries, including America, the richest country of the world, which admits that 17 per cent of its population live below the American line of poverty. Poverty also is an issue which should be tackled more seriously, but poverty did not increase under the adjustment programme. On the contrary, it may have shrunk and will continue to do so. We shall try to prove this last statement next Sunday.

## Bosnia crisis could become all-out war

By George Kenney

WASHINGTON — The horror in Bosnia will not reach a natural equilibrium at which the fighting will stop. Nor will other areas of the former Yugoslavia remain quiet for long. It is likely that at least as many innocent people will die as have already died — more than 200,000 — and that the conflict will inexorably spread outside the former Yugoslavia.

Western leaders cannot pretend their policy failure is a success. Nobody, especially President Bill Clinton, should think that because the West has abandoned Bosnia to partition the war will go away. The repercussions of inaction remain sobering. Here is a tour d'horizon and its likely development:

In Bosnia, no party has any incentive to stop fighting. The Muslims will never lay down their weapons in unconditional surrender. Serbs and Croats would only kill them more quickly. Serbian forces have not yet met all their territorial objectives: In eastern Bosnia, they want Srebrenica, an important road junction; in western Bosnia, they want Bihać, another junction; across central Bosnia, they want a new corridor linking Serb occupied territories; finally, they intend to raze Sarajevo, because as long as it stands it is a vital symbol of Bosnia's existence.

The Serbs will be able to destroy Sarajevo if they make only a few more advances. Shelling is a serious problem, but it doesn't level the city. Up to now, the city has been spared the worst because Serbian tanks and artillery fire into it from hilltop positions that require a high trajectory for shells. Gravity deprives the shells of a terminal velocity sufficient to penetrate deeply into buildings. People who live below the top floors in high-rises are safe.

If Serbian forces capture a key bridge on the western outskirts of town, they could fire high-velocity shells horizontally into almost all buildings, bringing them down in rubble. With control of that position, Serbian forces could sweep the broad east-west avenues with gunfire, turning them into killing fields.

Three times this year, Serbian forces have fought for the bridge but lost. They aren't able to back up tank movements with infantry. But it is only a matter of time, once they take the bridge, before they can easily drive Sarajevo residents into hills to the north. There wouldn't be enough housing in the hills, nor would people have easy access to water or relief supplies. Sarajevo, goodbye.

Where can the Muslims go? Not Croatia. The United Nations worries that it may have to resettle Muslim refugees already in Croatia to somewhere else in Europe, because the Croatian government is showing signs of wanting to throw the Muslims out. Not Croatian areas of Bosnia. Croatian forces do not allow Muslim resettlement, for fear of eventual Muslim demographic and political domination. Elsewhere in Europe? The United States? But the Muslims could not get out of Bosnia unless the international community evacuates all one million-plus of them.

Over the summer, the Serbs and the Croats will pack the Muslims into a few ever smaller areas, the main one being around and to the south of Tuzla. Those areas are not self-sufficient, but neither Serbs nor Croats will allow supplies through; only the international community's pathetically inadequate aid may get in.



via Sarajevo or Tuzla airport. The Muslims will continue to fight. The better armed Serbs and Croats will continue the slaughter. By the middle of winter, the Muslims' cumulative death toll may reach over half a million.

United Nations "negotiations" over Bosnia are so utterly obscene they do not warrant serious comment. Only force on the ground counts. Lord Owen, abandoning the peace plan he coauthored with Cyrus Vance, admitted as much, despite his naive plea for negotiations to continue. Both diplomats bear a heavy responsibility for collaborating with Serbian aggression.

In Croatia, it is highly likely the Croats and Serbs will renew full-scale war over Serb-occupied Croatia this summer. For weeks, both sides have been mobilising. Some observers say Serbia has even brought heavy artillery within striking distance of Zagreb. Immense Serbian military convoys move regularly towards Croatia.

Each side demands the other's submission. Serbia will not allow Croatia peace on the Dalmatian coast because with normality comes billions of tourist dollars, which the Croatian government would use to build its military into a threat to Serbian occupied areas. But for political and economic reasons, the Croatian government absolutely cannot cede control of the coast to Serbia.

There is still breathing room because Croatia has not quite built up sufficient strength to go on the offensive, and the U.N. still provides something of a buffer. The U.N. mandate, however, expires June 30, and Croatia may not renew it. The Croatian government is already beating the war drums for its domestic and expatriate constituencies.

What that government seems not to realise is that given its complicity in the dismemberment of Bosnia, its poor record on human and civil rights for minorities — mainly Serb — and its lack of freedom of the press, it is unlikely to get much sympathy from the international community for a new offensive.

Perhaps Croatia counts on Austria and Germany, historic allies, to supply it in an all-out war. They may do so, but only in the teeth of extreme Russian opposition and probably also against the express will of the international community. European powers once again are about to line up

## U.S. must play leading role in U.N. peacekeeping

WASHINGTON — United Nations peacekeeping is vital to American interests, says U.N. ambassador Madeleine Albright, and the United States must play a leading role in this effort.

"If we pursue a domestic agenda with blinders on, refusing to recognise the carnage to our left and the distant conflict to our right, eventually the cost of that disengagement, at a minimum, will be an additional financial burden we must bear" or "more likely (fielding of) U.S. forces with attendant potential loss of life," Ms. Albright told a congressional committee June 24.

She said that public "mis-perceptions" in the United States about the United Nations and its peacekeeping role could lead American policy "in the wrong direction" unless they are corrected.

Following are excerpts from Ms. Albright's prepared testimony:

I want to focus on some mis-perceptions about the United Nations and peacekeeping that continue to shape — erroneously in my opinion — our public discourse on this country's role in the United Nations.

There are, in short, myths about the United Nations that need to be exposed before they lead us in the wrong direction during this turbulent new era of world politics.

Myth No. 1: U.N. peacekeeping has nothing to do with U.S. national interest. I trust that my testimony before this subcommittee on May 3 dispensed with this myth. Peacekeeping has become instrumental in meeting three fundamental imperatives of our national interest: economic, political, and humanitarian. I elaborated on those imperatives in my recent speech before the Council on Foreign Relations. The world continues to be a dangerous place.

And yet consider for a moment what the world and the U.S. defence budgets would be today if there were no U.N. peacekeeping operations and the resultant power vacuums invited intervention by neighbours or would-be regional powers. Increasingly, we are faced with an often violent eruption of local or regional disputes that require the world's attention. And it is in this new world that peacekeeping and the modern responsibilities of collective security are essential to our security.

Myth No. 2: When the United Nations takes over a security operation, the United States can bail out. When the refrain is, "Let the U.N. handle it," that cannot mean a "Pass" for the United States. This country is a part of the United Nations — in fact we are and should remain a very senior partner — and our participation and leadership are vital to its work. The alternatives

**"This country is a part of the United Nations...our participation and leadership are vital to its work. The alternatives — blissful isolation or costly duty as the world's cop — are unrealistic and unacceptable."**

— blissful isolation or costly duty as the world's cop — are unrealistic and unacceptable. The Somalia operation is a good example of how a continued U.S. role minor compared to our initial United Nations Task Force (UN-ITF) deployment — is part and parcel of letting "the U.N." handle it.

Myth No. 3: Peacekeeping operations are consensual, avoid risks, and only prolong conflicts between governments. Many peacekeeping operations, particularly today in connection with failed societies, are deployed into internal conflicts or anarchy, and thus are not dependent on conventional notions of consent from each warring party. Nor, by any measure, are peacekeeping operations risk-free. 925 peacekeeping soldiers have been killed in action in the course of U.N. history, and 528 of those have died in ongoing operations. 53 British, 49 French, 43 Irish, 35 Canadians, and 10 Americans have died in the line of duty. In the former Yugoslavia, 43 peacekeepers have been killed. 186 peacekeepers have sacrificed their lives in Cyprus. The Somalia massacre of June 5 was a stark reminder of how exposed some peacekeepers are in the very hostile environments into which they are deployed.

Half of the 28 U.N. peacekeeping operations in U.N. history have been terminated, most within one or two years of their creation. While some peacekeeping operations may indeed encourage stalemate, the alternative often would be a bloody and costly conflict — with severe risks of escalation — that no one desires.

Myth No. 4: Peacekeeping is too expensive and ridden with fraud and mismanagement. I have testified and spoken out often about the ad hoc approaches that dominate peacekeeping operations. "Improvisation" is the single word that might best evoke the problems of peacekeeping. And while the potential for fraud and mismanagement exists, as it does in any large organisation, the most pressing problems in U.N. peacekeeping relate to the sheer improvisational character of the system. This produces major gaps in institutional capacity on one hand and inefficiencies on the other. In fact, the small peacekeeping staff at U.N. Headquarters is superfluous, and steps are now being taken to increase its size and effectiveness. The millions that are spent on peacekeeping operations — totalling more than \$3,000 million in 1993 — must be measured against the much higher costs that result if conflicts are left to fester and explode.

I would like to add that the administration is taking the lead

**"If we pursue a domestic agenda with blinders on, refusing to recognise the carnage to our left and the distant conflict to our right, eventually the cost of that disengagement, at a minimum, will be an additional potential loss of life."**

to enhance U.N. peacekeeping through implementation of important initiatives at the United Nations and within our own government. On May 28, the Security Council reached consensus on a list of peacekeeping reforms, and plans for implementing them will be reported to us by the secretary general in September. Within our government the administration has been conducting an intensive inter-agency review since February of both the U.S. role in peacekeeping and the planning and managerial capabilities of the United Nations for peacekeeping. We anticipate that review process to be concluded soon. Finally, in September we hope there will be a ministerial-level session of the Security Council to review peacekeeping.

Myth No. 5: The U.S. domestic agenda prevents us from leading and shaping a free and secure world. This is faulty logic at best, and disastrous public policy at worst. The stability of the world economy and of regional and world politics is deeply integrated with U.S. interests and our economy. If we pursue a domestic agenda with blinders on, refusing to recognise the carnage to our left and the distant conflict to our right, eventually the cost of that disengagement, at a minimum, will be an additional financial burden we must bear. More likely, the costs will include U.S. forces with attendant potential loss of life. President Clinton and Secretary Christopher have always recognised that the foreign agenda is inseparable from the domestic agenda. The sooner we all grasp that fundamental fact the sooner we will recognise U.N. peacekeeping as one small, but important, piece in the overall effort to achieve global stability and prosperity and to advance democracies and their typically market-oriented economies.

All of this points to the fact that we are engaged in a great dialogue, the conclusion of which no one can yet predict with certainty. In our effort to plot what role the United States should fill in this new era, we cannot abandon the responsibilities of a superpower. We cannot apply "old think" to how we judge peacekeeping operations and missions today and into the future. A whole new platter of issues confronts contributing nations, including deployments into internal conflicts and to protect humanitarian aid convoys. We need more minds pole vaulting over the conventions of the past and directing this nation's power into the 21st century — United States Information Agency.





"My endless beef with the Palestinian leadership is that they've never grasped the importance of America as clearly and as early as the Jews."

## Profile: Edward Said Envoy to two cultures

By Robert Hughes

HUGE AS American academe is, it has few public intellectuals — men or women whose views carry weight with general readers off-campus. Near the top of any list of such people is a tall,

elegantly tailored, 57-year-old American of Palestinian descent who for the past 30 years has taught English and comparative literature at Columbia University in New York City: Edward Said.

Mr. Said owes his fame partly to his cultural criticism, notably his 1978 book *Orientalism*, a study of how ideas and images about the Arab World were contrived by western writers and why. Now comes *Culture and Imperialism* (Knopf). A plum pudding of a book, with excursions on such matters as Irish nationalist poetry and the building of an opera house in Cairo for the launch of Verdi's *Aida*, it is the product of a culturally hyper-saturated mind, moving between art and politics, showing how they do or might intermesh — but never with the coarse ideological reductiveness of argument so common in America nowadays. Mr. Said's theme is how the three big realities of empire — imperialism, "native" resistance, decolonisation — helped shape, in particular, the English and French novel. *Culture and Imperialism* includes brilliant readings of Conrad, Kipling, Camus, Yeats and other writers. It has been extolled by such critics as Camille Paglia and Henry Louis Gates Jr., and roundly damned by others, especially English ones, who fixated on Said's suggestion that an awareness of Caribbean slavery ran under the ironic tranquility of Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park*. In England you can dump on God, Churchill or Prince Charles, but touch Jane Austen and you're toast.

So is Jane Austen why Mr. Said's office at Columbia has been vandalised, and why he has received death threats from Jews, Iraqis, Palestinian extremists and Syrians? Is his dislike of post-structuralism the reason why thousands of American Jews think of him as an enemy, the PLO's man in New York? Guess again.

more than 20 years he has been writing in defence of Palestinian rights and against the usurpation of Palestine territory by Israel. His books on the subject, like *The Question of Palestine* (1979), are written, he says, "to bear witness to the historical experience of Palestinians."

Hence the attacks. A few years ago, an article on Mr. Said ran in *Commentary* magazine under the defamatory headline "The Professor of Terror." In 1985 his name turned up on a "confidential" blacklist circulated by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, implying that he was one of a group of "pro-Arab propagandists" in American academe who "use their anti-Zionism merely as a guise for their deeply felt anti-Semitism."

When an academic association exposed this document, B'nai B'rith hastily retracted it and disowned its author. But trying to defend Palestinians against Israel's massive propaganda resources in America is, by any standard, an uphill slog, and Mr. Said has no illusions about it. "My endless beef with the Palestinian leadership is that they've never grasped the importance of America as clearly and as early as the Jews," he says. "Most Palestinian leaders, like Arafat, grew up in tyrannical countries where there's no democracy at all. They don't understand the institutions of civil society, and that's the most important thing!"

Mr. Said is not, in fact, a Muslim, but an Anglican. He was born in Jerusalem in 1935, the son of Arab Christians; his father, a wealthy merchant, fled to Cairo in 1947. English church, English education. In Cairo he went to Victoria College, "the Eton of the Middle East" — an anomaly, as Mr. Said remembers it, in an Egypt seething with anti-British feeling. Willingly, this training ground for the colo-

nial elite made him a child of Empire, giving him "a wonderful, very tough, English public-school education — ceaseless work." His teachers were all English, extras from Lawrence Durrell's *Alexandria Quartet*, "nostalgic for home and free to cane the little wogs under their tutelage."

There was general denigration of Arab society and the Arab World. The place to be was England. What mattered was English culture and English ideas."

At 15, fractious young Edward was expelled for "rowdiness," whereupon his father, who held dual Palestinian-U.S. citizenship, sent him to a boarding school in Massachusetts — "a tremendous dislocation for me, but academically very easy after what I'd come from." At 18, Said became an American citizen. He went to Princeton for a year, studying literature, music and moral philosophy. Then he transferred to Harvard, where, after five years, he got a doctorate in English literature. Looking back, Mr. Said thinks, the odd thing about his student years was that "I never attached myself to a mentor, never at all. It's my perverse

streak — I'm natural autodidact."

This liking for the self-taught is at the heart of Mr. Said's attitude towards work. He thinks the narrowness of students' reference is "one of the great generational dividers" and dislikes the current academic obsession with "professionalism," which basically means finding and keeping your knowledge slot in an overpopulated field. This, he complains, is apt to turn lively undergraduates into timid graduate students "afraid of stepping outside the consensus." Professionalism, as understood in American academe today, "means you learn all the current rules of how to say things. I think that's one of the reasons why intellectual life in America is so stunted. It's a colossal bore. I'm much happier being a shameless amateur, in the original sense of loving things and doing them because you're curious about

*"Most Arabs today, including cultivated ones, have no hope of any kind of cultural exchange between them and the West. The mood is so desperate. The fundamentalist movement is in a sense an act of desperation: The West won't listen to us, so we turn away from them."*

them, not because you have to."

Mr. Said's amateur passion, his *viola d'amore*, is music. He is an accomplished pianist, in April he gave duet recitals in New York and Washington with the Lebanese pianist Diana Takedine. For some years he wrote music criticism for the *Nation*, and in 1991 he published a collection of his essays, *Musical Elaborations*. Today, afflicted by leukemia and acutely aware of the shortness of life, he is thinking of writing "a memoir of my pre-political life, which ended in 1967. What a strange world I grew up in! — a vanished world now. It's very hard even to find traces of it. I can let memory play all the tricks it wants. I want that, actually. Then maybe I'll write some fiction."

His writing and teaching have always ranged widely. Their base — laid long ago at Harvard — is the tradition of German philology, exemplified in America by the émigré scholar Erich Auerbach (1892-1957), that explores the modes and levels of representation in Western writing. "Representation" — how we see other cultures, how we depict them in

some of their authors' social or political assumptions. "How can you not believe in quality? I can't stand that line; it's so stupid."

Politics — and the haunting, obsessive questions of Arab identity — entered Mr. Said's life long after music and literature. His effort to put them together started after the 1967 war with the seizure of the West Bank. "Many of my friends who had studied in America began to be drawn back, and I began to be involved in the reemergence of Palestinian nationalism." He set out to relearn classical Arabic. He got extra encouragement from his wife Mariam Cortas, the daughter of a Lebanese educator, "Mariam also grew up in the Middle East, but in an entirely Arab system."

The canard that Mr. Said supports Arab terrorism goes back to the '70s, and it is supported, his critics say, by the fact that from 1977 until 1991 he was a member of the Palestine National Council, a Palestinian parliament-in-exile consisting of some 400 members worldwide, which serves as an umbrella for the PLO as well as for nonmilitary and nonterrorist organisations. Never mind that Mr. Said has always urged the PLO to seek the conference table, not the car bomb; or that, to the U.S. government, the PNC and the PLO were wholly distinct. For the Israeli right and its American supporters they were one and the same thing. Thus in 1988, at the height of the Israeli crackdown in occupied Palestine, when U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz proposed talking to Mr. Said and another

Palestinian-American professor, Ibrahim Abu Lughod, to discuss his Middle East peace effort, Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir vehemently objected. The meeting took place anyway.

None of Mr. Said's political foes have been able to cite a single utterance by him that could be construed as anti-Semitic or as condoning either terrorism or terrorism. Hence they fall back on innuendo, on smear tactics or — in the case of Kanan Makiya, an Iraqi whose recent book *Cruelty and Silence*, directed against Arab acquiescence in the horrors of Saddam's regime, also fiercely attacks Mr. Said — on distortions of his views. The feud between Mr. Makiya and Mr. Said has been seized on, to the pleasure of neither, by American anti-Arabists. Mr. Said, declared A.M. Rosenthal in the *New York Times* last April, is the kind of Arab intellectual who preaches to

other Arabs that "the enemy is, guess — the West, not the despotisms among whom they chose not to seek tenure." Such folk, he added, are the "silent servants" of terrorism and tyranny.

And such punditry is wide of the mark. Far from lending support to Middle Eastern despotisms, Mr. Said has harshly criticised them. He spoke out (while academe remained largely silent) for Salman Rushdie against the Iranian mullahs and their farwa: "Those of us from the Muslim part of this world cannot accept the notion that democratic freedoms should be abrogated to protect Islam." He has inveighed against Saddam Hussein in Iraq and Hafez Assad in Syria. The "traditional discourse" of Arab nationalism, he wrote on the eve of the Gulf war, is "unresponsive, anomalous, even comic." The Arab media are "a disgrace," incapable of dealing with "life in the Arab World today with its terrible inequities, its self-inflicted wounds, its crushing mediocrity in science and many cultural fields." In sum, if Mr. Said is the Arab World's propagandist, it should hire a new one fast. He has always rejected the "tyranny and atomism" of Islamic fundamentalism, in the name of the secular, liberal and humane strand in Arab culture whose voices are silenced by Middle Eastern regimes and ignored in America. "People try to characterise me as a spokesman for the Arab states," says Mr. Said, "but I'm not. I've always tried to retain my independence. I've always spoken out against the leaders."

He isn't optimistic about the future, on either side. He sees Americans clinging to their Arab stereotypes — the fat grasping sheik, the crazy fundamentalist bomber. Meanwhile, "most Arabs today, including cultivated ones, have no hope of any kind of cultural exchange between them and the West. The mood is so desperate. The fundamentalist movement is in a sense an act of desperation: 'The West won't listen to us, so we turn away from them.' That's the most discouraging thing, to me — the wholesale condemnation of America and the West, without trying to discover that America is a very contradictory, various place." Were ever two cultures so far apart, so blinded by their own distorted images of each other? But what better subject could there be in this insanely fractured time, for an authentic humanist like Mr. Said? — *Time magazine*.

## Nigerian crisis is blow to African democracy

By Francis Mdlongwa  
Reuters

NAIROBI — Nigeria's military rulers, by annulling elections meant to pave the way for a return to civilian rule, have dealt another serious blow to the cause of democracy in Africa, political analysts have said.

Across the continent, from Cape Town in the south to Algiers on the shores of the Mediterranean, almost every country has relaxed the authoritarian systems set up after independence and dabbled with multi-party systems on the western model.

But the results have been mixed and the example of Nigeria, the most populous nation in Africa, will encourage the sceptics who said all along that democracy was no panacea.

"After a few short years of experimenting with democracy, we have to ask: Which way now Africa? People have been largely freed from dictatorships but is the cost worth it?" asked Paul Mavima, political scientist at Zimbabwe University.

"Multi-partyism is not working in Africa as it does in the West. The reason is that political leaders embraced the concept only because of threats by the West to cut aid," Mr. Mavima told Reuters by telephone from the Zimbabwe capital Harare.

Western countries, increasingly important in the 1980s as African countries sank deeper into debt and the continent earned less and less for many of its commodity exports, were indeed a crucial factor in the trend away from one-party rule.

The first generation of African leaders was dying out and most of them had failed to realise the economic aspirations which Afri-

cans had at independence in the 1960s.

American and European politicians argued that one-party rule, often associated with corruption and state intervention, had helped stifle economic growth.

The end of the cold war hastened the process, because west-

*"Multi-partyism is not working in Africa as it does in the West. The reason is that political leaders embraced the concept only because of threats by the West to cut aid"*

ern states began to judge African governments by criteria other than their attitude to the East-West conflict.

But one political analyst in Nairobi said that even where the old rulers stepped aside gracefully like Kenneth Kaunda in Zambia, the new rulers were not much of an improvement.

Relatively peaceful transitions have also taken place in Congo, Burundi and Madagascar.

"The opposition itself, where it has come to power as in Zambia, has also shown it is not different from one-party governments," said the analyst, who declined to be named.

"There is still corruption, mismanagement of the economy and political leaders want to perpetuate their rule."

In Congo, the new president is

at odds with the new opposition over the fairness of elections held in May and June.

In other cases, African leaders have made token reforms to satisfy western governments and powerful financial institutions like the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

"In some states such as Kenya, political changes have been largely cosmetic, disappointing many people who thought they would be freer politically and, with an expected improvement in the economy, more prosperous," said the analyst in Nairobi.

In December last year Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi swept back to power in the first multi-party elections in 26 years. The opposition disputed the results.

In some countries political reform has clearly contributed to a serious breakdown in law and order.

In Algeria, for example, Muslim fundamentalists deprived of electoral victory last year are waging a guerrilla war against the security forces of the military-backed government.

The fundamentalists were poised to win a parliamentary

majority when the authorities cancelled the elections.

In Somalia, the textbook case of an African country that has disintegrated, President Mohamed Siad Barre, clutching at straws, was rapidly opening up the political system when rebels drove him out of Mogadishu in January 1991.

In South Africa too, white rightists can campaign on a law-and-order platform, arguing that by repealing apartheid and legalising black political movements a reformist government has inadvertently raised the level of political violence.

Sometimes the source of violence has been the old politicians and their henchmen.

"The message from Nigeria and indeed in Malawi, where the government is reluctant to accommodate the opposition, is that some African leaders will still try to defy the winds of change. The results of this could be bloody chaos," Mr. Mavima said.

Surveying the continent, he said the future would be "rocky and hard, a journey without maps."

### Call for papers and participation

**"Symposium on the Conservation of Architectural Heritage in Jordan and the Arab World"**  
20-25 November 1993

The Department of Architecture and the Aga Khan Unit at the Faculty of Engineering & Technology, University of Jordan is sponsoring a "Symposium on the Conservation of Architectural Heritage in Jordan and the Arab World" from 20-25 Nov. 1993. The symposium aims at highlighting the urgent needs for a scientific study of the conservation of architectural heritage through the different academic and vocational institutions, for exchanging thoughts and experiences concerning methods of conserving architectural and urban heritage in Jordan and the Arab World. Those who wish to participate in the Symposium (with paper or without) from both governmental and private sectors should contact:

Dr. Kamel Mahadin/Chairman  
Symposium on Architectural Heritage in Jordan and the Arab World  
Department of Architecture  
Faculty of Engineering and Technology, University of Jordan  
Tel: UNVJ. JO 21625 Fax: (962) 6-848448

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## Israel is no longer a 'developing country' U.S. reviewing Asian, African and L. American worker status

## Vietnam prepares to issue its first credit card

HANOI (AP) — Vietnam will issue its first credit cards to businesses next week, and retail cards may follow if the initial offering is successful, Vietnamese bank officials said Saturday.

Vietnam's foreign trade bank Vietcombank, plans to start distributing 1,000 credit cards for wholesale use Wednesday, said Dau Ngoc Tram, the bank's credit manager.

dit card manager in Ho Chi Minh City. She said Vietcombank will issue consumer debit cards to facilitate bank deposits and withdrawals.

Minh City have signed up for the cards, which were designed and made in France by the company Bull. Each card will cost its user about \$10 and will be available

## EC ministers endorse energy-saving plans

Retail cards are the next step Ms. Tram said. Although foreigners here can already use credit cards like Visa and Mastercard

"We have no experience in this field, so there will be a lot of

difficulties in this phase," said Nguyen Thu Ha, who works in the international relations department of Vietcombank's Hanoi office. "But we will try to put it into operation."

## SCOPE

you have to a well based business person and get support for putting

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) You are able to get the interest of a brilliant and quick-acting person to aid you in making your

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Be more enthusiastic about

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to

December 21) Look for some special hobby that delights you and close companions and add to your happiness by a joint enjoyment, tonight avoid heavy expenses.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) You have a day when you can change situations at home not to your liking but then tonight you need to use much care not to

**float**

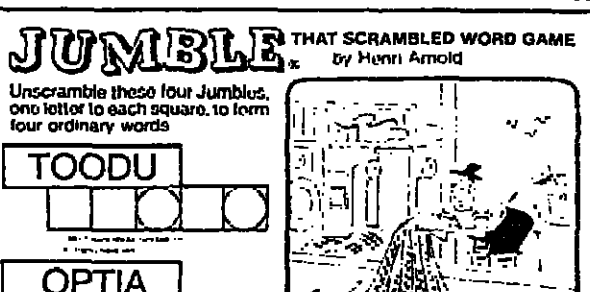
**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) You have a day when you can change situations at home not to your liking but then tonight you need to use much care not to aggravate family.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You can be very productive with new directions in which you are placing your energies but tonight don't let a secret annoyance throw you.

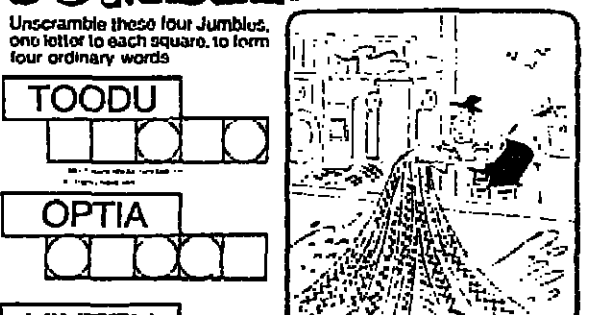
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[Answers tomorrow]

Yesterday's	Jumbles:	MOUND CHEEK EMBODY BEHAVE
	Answer:	How the lazy gardener felt about his work— HOE HUM

## HOROSCOPE

**FORECAST FOR SUNDAY JUNE 27, 1993**  
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Richter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Listen to your intuitive ideas that will assist you in handling difficult matters that come your way today as the Libra Moon Squares Neptune and Uranus. There are bound to be some delays.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Go after what you want of an intimate nature now in a forth-right fashion and add some sparkle to whatever you do as it would please

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) You have a quiet inspiration what you can do in communication with a younger person that will bring your tasks and find something modern in nature or design that will give efficiency and more of creative skill.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You are rightly impulsive in going after

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You can be very productive with new directions in which you

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) You like to make changes for the better whenever they appear to you and you can do so today with confidence, tonight don't get into a

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Take that practical new idea

THE Daily Crossword by Peter Jones

by Roger Jurgovan

[illegible]

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

55 Sampson City	23 Sudden rise	SCAB	SAIPS	PREP
56 Creme de la Creme	24 Hurry	ACETO	TRAP	RIPE
57 Numbers	25 Sight	FACTO	ODZE	EMIR
58 National League Team	26 Domestic	ELI	GLUM	AFFECT
59 Free man	27 Winner James	WALKI	ETALKIE	
	28 Requiem	NESS	REDROLL	
	29 Victory			

10 Flycatcher	31 Gettysburg	ARROWS CARD RID
DOWN	32 Traverse	SEATO PAR TERRS
1 CARS	33 - Sne	ANN ORAL CEASES
2 Milk & Egg	34 Sweet?	POTAGES OAFS
3 Bunk & Cole	35 Accordion	PITTERPATTER
4 Stencil	36 Walk wearily	SNIPER LINED DRD
	37 Feet of dirt, a	LARGE ALFALFA

4	Confusing	37	Defender of	UPON	GOOD	DEALS
5	Comp. +		Harmful	COAL	LEASE	
6	Imparting	41	Pro —	MEND	TIRE	EASE
7	Festive	42	More rate			
8	Indisposed	43	Versant			
9	Praying o/s	44	Unhappy			
10	Exalted					
11	Unhappy					

11 Demerol	45 Moreno and		
12 Soma	Cocidge		
13 Solite	46 Beau —	49 Publisher	51 Aino
18 Sand	47 Nutin cheese	Adolph	53 Bravo
	48 Taint	50 Fresh	



## Two Omani banks to merge in August

MUSCAT (R) — Commercial Bank of Oman (CBO), which needs to raise its paid-up capital to comply with new central bank rules, is to merge with Omani Banking Corporation in August, CBO's chairman was quoted as saying Saturday.

Al Watan newspaper, in a report carried by the Omani News Agency, reported CBO Chairman Ahmad Bin Abdullah Al Ghazali as saying initial talks had taken place to coordinate the merger. CBO has capital of five million riyals (\$13 million), just half the minimum level set by the central bank recently. It is 51 per cent owned by Omani shareholders, with the rest being held by Pakistan's United Bank. Omani Banking Corporation is 100 per cent owned by Omani shareholders. Mr. Ghazali said the merged bank would be called Commercial Bank of Oman, and would have a capital level above the 10 million riyals (\$26 million) required by the central bank.

## New find raises Iraq phosphate reserves to 10b tonnes

BAGHDAD (R) — Geological survey teams have found huge deposits of phosphate in the Iraqi desert, boosting total national reserves to 10 billion tonnes, the government newspaper Al Jumhuriyah said Saturday.

It said the new find was located west of Baghdad, an area rich in phosphate ore.

"The geological survey of the country has yielded new significant results...among them the presence of phosphate raw materials in the western desert," the paper said, quoting a senior official at Iraq's ministry of industry and minerals.

"The reserves have been pushed to 10 billion tonnes," the

paper said. Jumhuriyah did not say what Iraq's reserves were before the new find.

Iraq has a huge industrial complex for the manufacture of fertilizers at Al Qa'im on the border with Syria. It was heavily bombed during the 1991 war over Kuwait, but Iraq says it managed to restore it to its original state.

## UAE, China sign pact to encourage investment

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and China Saturday signed an agreement to encourage investment in the two countries.

Khalid Kharbush, an assistant undersecretary at the UAE finance and industry ministry, and Sun Yugang, deputy director of the Chinese State Tax Bureau, signed the agreement, which provides for cutting or cancelling taxes on investment, capital and income in both countries.

"The agreement will create a

strong incentive for investors in the two countries to consider any investment opportunity as it will boost the return from investment," Mr. Kharbush told reporters.

Despite a sharp increase in trade between the two countries, their mutual investments are still negligible and less than 1,000 Chinese nationals live in the UAE.

Most of the overseas assets of the UAE and other wealthy Gulf Arab states, estimated at over \$350 billion, are based in the West but there have been calls to

explore Asian and East European markets.

Chinese Vice Premier Li Lan Qing, who is touring the region, will discuss investment and economic cooperation when he visits the UAE next week.

The UAE and China established diplomatic ties in 1985 and a few years later they set up a joint commission to boost trade, which surged to around \$1 billion in 1992 from \$435 million in 1989. The trade balance has remained largely in favour of China although it is a major importer of UAE fertilizers.

## Labour disputes cut S. Korea exports

SEOUL (AFP) — South Korea has lost hundreds of millions of dollars in exports so far this year owing to labour disputes, trade ministry officials said Saturday.

The officials said the sum of export sales foregone from Jan. 1 to June 22 because of labour problems was \$228.79 million.

They said the figure was 38.6 per cent higher than the \$165.12 million lost in the same period in 1992.

The sum lost by South Korea's steel-industry soared a disturbing 432 per cent to \$20.79 million, and that lost by the automobile industry climbed 43.1 per cent to \$20.64 million.

Labour disputes forced shipbuilding companies to forego some \$2.24 million dollars, the officials said.

A total of 237 labour disputes was reported to the labour ministry so far this year to June 24, outstripping 209 cases reported in the same period a year earlier.

## Lebanon issues new 10,000 lira bank note

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon issued a new 10,000 lira bank note Saturday in a move to lessen its dependence on the U.S. dollar.

With the pound's closure at 1,731 to the dollar Friday, the 10,000 lira note is worth \$5.78.

Lebanese had to carry stacks of notes to make purchases because of rampant inflation, running at more than 100 per cent last year. With prices largely pegged to the dollar many prefer to carry dollars or other currencies, which they also cling to in times of

crisis. "We expect that this (step) would help citizens to depend more on Lebanese liras than other currencies in dealings," State Minister for Finance Fuad Siniora said.

People queued at the central bank since early morning to change stacks of blue 1,000 lira notes, the largest denomination until Saturday, for the new purple notes.

Mr. Siniora said parliament also approved a bill allowing the

central bank to issue 25,000, 50,000 and 100,000 lira notes to facilitate dealing in Lebanese liras.

The lira reached a record low of 2,750 against dollar last September. It has gained since the appointment of billionaire Rafik Al Hariri as prime minister in October 1992.

It was once one of the most stable currencies in the Middle East, worth less than three to the dollar before the 15-year civil war broke out in 1975.

## Qatar reportedly awards \$2b LNG tanker contract to Japan

DUBAI (R) — Qatar's state-owned oil firm, Qatar General Petroleum Corporation (QGPC), has awarded a \$2 billion contract to build seven giant gas tankers to a Japanese consortium, Al Hayat newspaper reported Saturday.

The deal was awarded to the Japanese firms Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Mitsui Engineering and Shipbuilding, and Kawasaki Heavy Engineering despite problems over pricing caused by a recent surge in the value of the yen, it said.

The seven tankers, with a capacity of 135,000 cubic metres each, will be used to transport liquefied natural gas (LNG) to Asia from Qatar's North Field, which is expected to start production in 1997.

Qatari officials were not available to comment on the reported deal, which Al Hayat said still

required approval from the Qatari government.

The paper said under the agreement Mitsubishi would build three of the tankers and Mitsui and Kawasaki two each.

Qatar will pay around \$254 million each for the first four tankers, due for delivery in 1996

or 1997. The price of the other three will be agreed by September, when the final contract is to be signed, the paper said.

It said the deal would be priced in dollars since a recent surge in the yen against the dollar made initial Japanese proposals too costly.

## IDB lends Algeria \$35.5m

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria has signed three accords with the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) for loans totalling \$35.54 million, half devoted to

an electricity network in the north of the country. According to Sonelgaz, the computer network for improved information

flow, billing of clients, and stock management should save the company some \$37 million a year, APS said.

firm's management and enable greater centralisation, the agency said. The third loan, for \$17.5 million, is to finance part of

an electricity network in the north of the country. According to Sonelgaz, the computer network for improved information

flow, billing of clients, and stock management should save the company some \$37 million a year, APS said.

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ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SATURDAY 26/06/1993				
COMPANY'S NAME	TRADED VOLUME	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	407,155	172.100	175.000	174.250
CALSO AMMAN BANK	198,127	1.140	1.220	1.220
BANK OF JORDAN	46,110	41.000	42.000	42.750
MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK	16,522	2.750	2.800	2.800
JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	24,917	2.090	2.080	2.090
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	15,378	5.150	5.200	5.150
JORDAN BANK FOR SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	61,823	5.940	5.950	6.000
JORDAN KIDNEY BANK	649,047	2.980	2.830	3.130
JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	29,710	1.800	1.800	1.800
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	175,047	5.800	5.800	5.800
JORDAN BANK FOR SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	61,823	5.940	5.950	6.000
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## Bosnian Croats, Muslims battle for territory ahead of talks

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Rival groups fought fiercely for three towns in the northern tip of central Bosnia Saturday as members of the shattered country's collective presidency prepared to go to Brussels to meet European Community (EC) ministers.

U.N. sources confirmed bitter fighting between Croats and Muslims, former allies against the Serbs, for the towns of Zavidovici, Zepce and Maglaj in the northernmost tip of central Bosnia.

The Muslim-controlled Bosnian radio said several hundred shells landed on the towns Friday evening and early Saturday, killing and wounding many people.

It said Zepce was under total Croat siege with artillery pounding residential districts, and accused the Serbs of openly siding with their former Croat foes against the Muslims.

Seven members of Bosnia's presidency said they had agreed on a basic position on a joint Serb-Croat plan to carve up the republic, and insisted they had the authority to take crucial decisions at their talks in Brussels.

But the members, who included Bosnian Muslims, Serbs and Croats, promised they would first consult the remaining two members — President Alija Izetbegovic and his vice president, Ejup Ganic — who oppose the plan, calling it genocide.

Mr. Ganic warned that the Muslims would fight on rather than accept the plan, and would engulf Europe in a wave of guer-

rilla attacks if the world abandoned them.

Speaking about the meeting with EC foreign ministers in Brussels later Saturday, Mr. Abdic conceded there were differences among presidency members over the plan to carve Bosnia into three ethnic states, without elaborating.

Mr. Abdic is tipped as a possible successor to Mr. Izetbegovic if he is removed as president after 15 months of civil war.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, whose forces now control 70 per cent of Bosnia, warned that a long war would ensue if the Muslims rejected the latest peace proposals.

"If the Muslims undermine the present negotiations in Geneva, it would result in a long-lasting war," Mr. Karadzic told the Bosnian Serb News Agency (SRNA).

"If the Muslims really do not join in... the Serbs, and most probably the Croats, will set off on the road to independence."

"This is their (Muslims') last chance to join the negotiations and get something that belongs to them."

On the ground, Muslims and Croats continued their bitter quest for territory in central Bosnia.

Croatian Radio said Croat units managed to liberate some villages around Zepce, capturing 200 Muslim soldiers. It said at least four people had been killed and 10 wounded during widespread Muslim attacks in the area.

In eastern Bosnia, Muslim forces violated the latest ceasefire several times in Zepce and launched strong infantry assaults on Serb positions from Srebrenica, the Belgrade-based news agency, Tanjug, reported. Both towns are U.N.-designated safe havens.

In the south, the Serbs accused the Muslims of attacking around the U.N. safe area of Gorazde, Foca, Trnovo and Kalinovik. They said Muslims were bringing in fresh reinforcements into the area.

In Zagreb, Croatian President Franjo Tudjman warned that his country would rethink its Bosnia policy if attacks on Croats continued.

Saying there were 100,000 Croats in danger, he added that he had received appeals from Croats in 10 towns in central Bosnia where there had been "complete ethnic cleansing" and massacres of civilians.

Meanwhile most of Bosnia's collective presidency, but without President Izetbegovic, left for Brussels Saturday for talks with the European Community, Zagreb Airport officials said.

Meanwhile United Nations Secretary General Boutros Ghali has warned that he will recommend the pull-out of U.N. troops from the former Yugoslavia if threats to their safety worsen, the BBC reported Saturday.

Dr. Ghali said in a report to the U.N. Security Council, leaked to the BBC, that such threats had already reached an "unacceptable level," with nearly fifty

members of the peacekeeping forces killed so far.

Dr. Ghali has recommended a three-month renewal of the mandate for the U.N. Peacekeeping Force (UNPROFOR), when it runs out at the end of this month.

But Croatia — where the force is headquartered — has said it wants only a one-month extension of the mandate and will not tolerate occupation by Serb forces of a third of Croatian territory for much longer.

U.N. troops have the job of disarming the Serb forces and reintegrating them into Croatia.

The U.N. chief also called for all parties to demonstrate commitment to peace, stressing that it would not be a worthwhile use of resources to try to maintain peace where there was no peace to keep.

With Bosnia's state being decided at negotiations in Geneva, Washington has gotten its resolve promises and moved to the sidelines, apparently indifferent to the consequences of its passivity.

Illustrating the desire of President Bill Clinton's government to distance itself from the Balkan crisis, Washington's special Bosnian envoy, Reginald Bartholomew, is following the Geneva talks from his State Department office in Washington.

Mr. Bartholomew was recently appointed to be ambassador to Rome and no new candidate for his current position has been announced.



Crown Prince Naruhito and Princess Masako leave the inner shrine at the Ise Grand Shrine Saturday (AP photo)

## Japan royal newlyweds visit shrine

ISE, Japan (AP) — Deep in a forest of towering cedar trees, newlywed Crown Prince Naruhito and Princess Masako Saturday announced their marriage to the sun goddess Amaterasu, from whom their family claims to have descended.

In keeping with imperial custom, Prince Naruhito, heir to the ancient chrysanthemum throne, led his bride of two weeks up a pebbled pathway to the Ise Shrine's most sacred altar, where a mirror said to reflect the soul of the sun goddess is kept.

But because the innermost sanctuary of the shrine — the holiest of places to followers of Japan's native religion — is considered too sacred for even a future emperor and empress to enter, the two paid their respects from outside one of several gates.

And, in what might have been taken as a bad omen in more

superstitious times, a light, steady rain fell throughout the solemn ritual.

The royal couple's trip to this city on the east coast of central Japan is their first journey outside of Tokyo since being married in an exotic ceremony at the imperial palace on June 9.

Tens of thousands of well-wishers turned out to greet them when they arrived Friday, and thousands more — many waving Japanese flags — lined the streets outside of the shrine Saturday.

Prince Naruhito, 33, is only the fourth royal heir to marry this century, and his wedding has provided a welcome respite from the news of economic recession and political uncertainty that has dominated Japanese headlines this year.

Nearly 4,000 police were mobilized around this city of 100,000 to make sure ultraleft

radicals were not able to disrupt the visit.

The number of police comes out to be roughly one for every 26 of Ise's residents, and is nearly five times as many as was deemed necessary when Prince Naruhito's parents, Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, made their honeymoon here in 1959.

After praying at Ise, Prince Naruhito and Princess Masako, 29, boarded a train for a short trip west to the ancient capital Nara, where they are to pay their respects at the grave of Jingu, who according to legend was Japan's first emperor.

Once back in Tokyo, the couple was to visit the late Emperor Hirohito's mausoleum. Emperor Hirohito, who is now known in Japan posthumously as Emperor Showa, was Prince Naruhito's grandfather.

## Azeri rebels want more punishment for Elchibey

BAKU (Agencies) — Armed Azeri rebels camped at the gates of Baku said Saturday they wanted more punishment for President Abulfaz Elchibey, who was stripped of his powers this week by parliament.

"We are very satisfied, and our leaders are very satisfied with parliament's decision," Colonel Rasul Suleimanov told Reuters at a checkpoint 20 kilometres from Baku.

"It is a good first step, but it is not enough," he said.

"We stand by our first demand. We want Elchibey to resign formally and we want him to stand trial for the bloodshed he provoked. We have no orders to leave until that has happened."

Mr. Elchibey fled Baku as the rebels advanced 10 days ago, threatening to seize the city unless he resigned. Since then, he has been in hiding in a remote southwestern spot, refusing to return or resign.

Saying it was impossible for Mr. Elchibey, a nationalist and former dissident, to rule from the countryside, parliament voted away his powers Thursday.

The country is now run by parliament leader Geidar Aliyev, 70, a former Soviet politburo member.

The rebels took to the road three weeks ago after a bloody

battle at their headquarters, the western city of Gyandzha, in which government troops tried to disarm them. Seventy people were killed and the rebels blame Mr. Elchibey for the deaths.

Parliament has said it will take no further steps against Mr. Elchibey until a commission has completed its investigation into the Gyandzha events, due by the end of the month.

But many parliamentarians speak warmly of rebel leader Sureit Guseinov, a military commander sacked in February by Mr. Elchibey as Azerbaijan suffered heavy losses in a war with Armenians over the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

If the commission rules Mr. Elchibey was responsible for the Gyandzha bloodshed, these parliamentarians say he should be removed from power altogether and possibly brought to trial.

Real power in Azerbaijan has vacillated for weeks between Mr. Aliyev and Col. Guseinov, a wealthy ex-merchant described scathingly by some foreign observers as "Azerbaijan's generalissimo."

Diplomats, who earlier said Mr. Aliyev was manipulating Col. Guseinov's rebels to ensure his own return to power and believed the 35-year-old rebel chief was loyal to the Soviet-era

veteran, are no longer quite so sure.

Although Mr. Aliyev runs the country, he and his parliament are apparently dancing to Guseinov's tune.

Last-minute talks on a \$9 billion oil contract, which Mr. Elchibey had been due to sign next week with several foreign companies, including British Petroleum Co. and Amoco Corp., have been suspended until a new government is formed.

The suspension has fuelled local fears that Moscow might be trying to prevent the former Soviet republic's oil wealth from falling into foreign hands. But Russia's Foreign Ministry has denied any involvement in the Azeri turmoil.

Baku remains quiet. Rebels drop in from their suburban bases. Shops are open. But a pro-Elchibey demonstration by a few hundred students Friday was dispersed when soldiers shot in the air.

Some Turkish journalists were beaten up by police, the Azeri News Agency, Turan said.

Journalists returning from Mr. Elchibey's refuge near the Iranian border in the enclave of Nakhichevan quoted him as insisting, even after the parliament's decision, that power was

still in his hands.

But Turan quoted sources in the parliament's office as saying his entire staff, now waiting in Baku, was preparing to resign.

### Azeris launch attack in Karabakh

Azerbaijani ground forces supported by aircraft launched a major offensive against Armenian separatists in the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh Saturday, the Armenian authorities in the enclave's main town Stepanakert said.

The Stepanakert parliament's press service said the Azerbaijani forces, attacking on a broad north-south front, had seized several strategic heights, but by midday (0800 GMT) the Armenian troops had halted their advance.

One Azerbaijani plane had been shot down, the officials said, adding that the fighting was particularly heavy around Gadut in the south and Markakert in the north.

In recent months ethnic Armenian forces have gained control of virtually all of Nagorno-Karabakh, an Armenian enclave in Azerbaijan. They have been fighting over the territory since 1988, in a war in which more than 7,000 people have died.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### 4 die in Indian military air crash

NEW DELHI (R) — An Indian jet fighter crashed during military exercises Saturday killing its pilot and three soldiers, news agencies said. United News of India said seven people were injured when the Soviet-made MiG-21 jet crashed near the north Indian city of Gwalior. A dispatch by Press Trust of India, which described the aircraft as a French-built Mirage, said six were hurt.

### Solzhenitsyn returns to Russia next year

MOSCOW (R) — Writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn will return to Russia next year, ending almost two decades of exile in the United States, his wife said in an interview broadcast Saturday. Natalya Solzhenitsyn told Commonwealth Television the date depended on construction of a house near Moscow. "We were assured by our builders that it will be fully and finally completed in May (1994) and therefore in May we shall be in Russia," she said.

### China executes 59 drug traffickers

PEKING (R) — Authorities executed 59 drug traffickers after mass sentencing rallies across China Friday and Saturday as part of World Anti-Drug Day observances, local media said. The largest reported number of executions took place Saturday in the southwestern Chinese province of Yunnan, which borders the notorious "Golden Triangle" drug producing region, state radio said. The 28 executions in Yunnan were part of an annual ritual to observe international day against drug abuse and trafficking. The Yunnan provincial governor presided over a mass sentencing rally in the provincial capital Kunming where the death penalty was pronounced for the 28 men.

### Nepal police clash with protesters

KATMANDU (AP) — Thousands of protesters threw stones and clashed with police Saturday in a demonstration demanding a new investigation into the death of two Communist Party leaders. Police fired tear gas and swung bamboo batons to disperse the Communist protesters outside the Royal Nepal Airlines building and Bir Hospital in downtown Katmandu. Many windows were broken in the four-storey U.S. Information Service building. The rock throwers also heavily damaged a city garage. On Friday, general strikes enforced by Communist protesters closed stores and stopped traffic in Katmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur. Demonstrators forced taxis and cars off the streets, and at least 24 cars and government buses were damaged when protesters threw rocks at them and burned their tyres.

### Astronauts return to lab work

SPACE CENTRE, Houston (AP) — Endeavour's astronauts completed two hectic days of satellite-snaring and spacewalking, but the work was far from over as they conducted a full day of

science experiments Saturday. Mission control, which let the space shuttle's crew members sleep an extra hour after Friday's nearly six-hour spacewalk, woke them for their sixth day in space to the pop tune Holiday by Madonna. "Sounds like a holiday. We'll take a trip around the world perhaps," said Endeavour pilot Brian Duffy. "We'd like you guys to celebrate the great work you've done on the mission so far," mission control replied. Most of the time remaining in the mission, scheduled to end Tuesday, will be devoted to experiments in Spacelab, a new, privately funded laboratory that takes up about a third of the cargo bay. Commander Ron Grabe spent part of the day controlling three cameras snapping pictures of Earth in a project commissioned by public school students in Charleston, S.C. The experiment was designed to duplicate geographical photos taken by Skylab 20 years ago. Saturday, Commander Grabe photographed Western Africa and a dust storm in the Sahara Desert while other astronauts gazed out of a Spacelab window.

### Haiti talks to be moved from Manhattan

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Talks Sunday between Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and the military leader who overthrew him will be moved from U.N. headquarters to an isolated island off the coast of Manhattan, diplomats said. They said the venue of the talks was changed at the last minute because New York authorities had grave security concerns in light of anticipated demonstrations by exiled Haitians opposed to military rule in their homeland. Mr. Aristide and General Raoul Cedras both accepted negotiations, starting Sunday, as part of a United Nations effort to restore the deposed president to power. Tens of thousands of Haitian demonstrators had been expected to flood into Manhattan in support of Mr. Aristide, the country's first democratically elected president.

### Sihanouk: Khmer Rouge can't be trusted

PHNOM PENH (APF) — Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Saturday Khmer Rouge's offer to return to the Cambodian capital Phnom Penh simply as a political party cannot be trusted. The radical faction's nominal leader Khieu Samphan said in a letter to the prince Thursday he wanted to return to Phnom Penh simply as a representative of his party. He said he did not wish to seek power in the country's newly formed interim government. "The Khmer Rouge said they just want to be simple people, or a simple party, but we must be careful about these simple people. We cannot trust them 100 per cent," Prince Sihanouk said, speaking to 300 Buddhist monks and their followers at a religious gathering to celebrate the half-moon festival. He said the Khmer Rouge recognised the assembly, the government and the result of the U.N.-run election in May, which the guerrillas originally tried to violently disrupt. "We must be careful with such sweet words because we have already tried the Khmer Rouge's sweetness. Pol Pot's fruit was quite bitter, even sometimes containing poison," he said, referring to the faction's notorious leader whose rule in 1975-79 led to the deaths of some one million people.

## Mandela wants extremists arrested

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — ANC President Nelson Mandela has demanded the immediate arrests of white extremists who commandeered the conference centre where political parties were negotiating the white minority rule.

Police said Saturday they were investigating, but had not made any arrests following Friday's dramatic show of force by the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement.

The small, white supremacist group drove an armoured vehicle through a plate glass window at the conference hall, then occupied the centre for more than two hours before leaving. Police watched and made no effort to arrest the several hundred khaki-clad demonstrators, many of them heavily armed.

The incident sparked a new political crisis as 26 black and white parties were close to formal agreement on holding the country's first non-racial election next April.

The multiparty talks resumed Friday after the disturbance. But the episode had created new tensions between Mr. Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) and President F.W. De

Klerk's white government. Mr. Mandela demanded the white extremists be arrested and said he was disappointed at Mr. De Klerk's response.

"I asked (De Klerk) through the telephone why he did not make arrests while demonstrations were in progress, and he said that might have resulted in bloodshed," Mr. Mandela said on national television Friday night.

"I told him that if those (demonstrators) were blacks, he would not have put up that argument," Mr. Mandela added. Black protesters "would have been shot and killed on the spot."

Mr. Mandela also called for demonstrations on July 1 in support of democracy. He repeated the ANC's oft-stated demand for multiparty control of the security forces.

ANC officials and other black political leaders distrust the police and have frequently accused officers of instigating violence in the black townships.

By failing to act decisively Friday, the police were seen sympathetic to right-wing extremists. The police previously have broken up demonstrations by black groups outside the conference centre.

President F.W. De Klerk went on television to appeal for calm after the attack, warning such incidents posed a threat to peace. "There is a grave risk... that racial conflict at grassroots level can erupt as a result of this," he said.

The European Community, the United States and other foreign groups said the violence must not be allowed to disrupt the talks.

"The violent events... are shocking, especially in light of the progress which has been made in the negotiations," said George Moose, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs.

Eugene Terreblanche, head of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement, and other white extremists oppose black rule and demand an autonomous white homeland.

But most right-wing leaders are more moderate than Mr. Terreblanche and they appeared unhappy over Friday's violent protest, which could discredit their cause in the eyes of many whites.

Police said Saturday they had seized the armoured vehicle used by a right-wing militia to storm South Africa's democracy negotiations but had yet to make any arrests in connection with the assault.

## Russia convention discusses constitution

MOSCOW (AP) — President Boris Yeltsin reopened his constitutional convention Saturday by presenting delegates with a compromise proposal for how government could work in the post-Soviet era.

The new draft calls private property a "natural right" and stresses the importance of human rights. It would abolish the current legislature and give Russia's 66 regions and 21 republics equal rights with each other and with the federal state.

The draft has synthesised all the best elements contained in the two drafts, Mr. Yeltsin said, referring to his own proposed version and one put forth by a committee of the rival Supreme Soviet legislature.

"We now have a subject for discussion," he told delegates in his 10-minute opening address. The document, cobbled together over the last three weeks from five competing versions, would guarantee the right to own

land and would disband the current legislature.

Delegates have been deeply divided over the balance of power between the president and parliament and between the federal government and Russia's regions and republics.

The convention has been torn by the continuing power struggle between Mr. Yeltsin and the Communist-dominated legislature. Just Friday, the Supreme Soviet called on legislators to withdraw from the convention, citing allegations of corruption against some Yeltsin administration officials.

Few legislators heeded the call, however.

The convention began on June 5 in the Kremlin, attended by 700 hand-picked delegates: Regional officials, lawmakers and various civic leaders. Their job is to draft the constitution and decide how it should be adopted.

The draft says there should be

new elections for a "federal council" — the new parliament — but doesn't give a date.

The convention was recessed on June 16 so a smaller working commission could hammer out the differences between the five proposed constitutional drafts.

Mr. Yeltsin said the draft would be sent back to five working groups and another plenary session would be called. His press secretary, Vyacheslav Kostikov, told reporters the next plenary meeting may be held in a week.

Asked by one delegate whether Russia would become a presidential or parliamentary democracy, Alexander M. Yakovlev, a prominent lawyer who chaired the working commission, said it would be a mixture.

"This is neither a presidential model as in the United States nor a parliamentary model as in Britain," he said. "We are neither Americans nor Britons, we are Russians."

## Nigeria poll winner slams opponent

LAGOS (R) — The undeclared winner of Nigeria's scrapped presidential election accused his rival Saturday of siding with forces opposed to a return to civilian rule.

It is unfortunate that Alhaji (Bashir) Tofa has chosen to pitch camp with the opponents of democracy, thereby giving credence to the speculation that he never was a candidate but a decoy," Moshood Abiola's campaign coordinator said in a statement.

Mr. Tofa had apparently been dissuaded from sending a letter conceding defeat after the June 12 election, it said.

Mr. Abiola has claimed victory in the election, Nigeria's first for

president in a decade.

Military President Ibrahim Babangida, who seized power in a 1983 coup, annulled the election but said Friday the army would install an elected president and government on Aug. 27, on schedule.

Gen. Babangida's remarks received a guarded welcome from Nigerians sceptical about a three-times delayed programme to return the country to civilian rule.

The election battle between Mr. Abiola, 55, and Mr. Tofa, 45, wealthy Muslim businessmen representing parties created by the army, effectively became a contest between the mainly Christian south and largely Mus-

lim north.

Mr. Abiola is from the south and Mr. Tofa from the north, which has provided most of Nigeria's leaders since independence in 1960.

"Alhaji Tofa was reliably reported to have drafted a letter of concession and defeat and congratulations to Chief Abiola but was apparently dissuaded from the noble act by his sponsors in Abuja," Mr. Abiola's campaign coordinator Jonathan Zwingina said in the statement.

"It is rather unfortunate that Alhaji Tofa has gone the full cycle from a noble candidate, a gallant loser, to an anti-democrat."

## Depardieu's son gets 3 year sentence for dealing heroin

VERSAILLES (AP) — The son of noted French actor Gerard Depardieu has been sentenced to a three-year prison term, with two years suspended, for selling heroin. Guillaume Depardieu, 22, was convicted and sentenced by judges who punished him more lightly than the four-year prison term, with 18 months suspended, demanded by state prosecutors.

Presiding Judge Roger Lemble noted that the young Depardieu, who claimed he no longer uses heroin, was "not a real hoodlum." "It's true that you're suffering from the media circus around your trial, but you tolerate it easily enough when the publicity is favourable," Judge Lemble said. Depardieu, who has spent three months in jail awaiting trial, will likely serve only three more before becoming eligible for parole. Police arrested him on Dec. 14 and found cash and several small bags of heroin at his family home west of Paris bought on a trip to Rotterdam, Netherlands. Depardieu said he was trying to sell heroin to reimburse 6,000 francs (about \$1,100) he gave to two friends with a drug habit, then take a ski vacation. Depardieu, a budding actor like his father, was tried with six other defendants. They have received sentences with jail time ranging from three months to two years. The young Depardieu claimed he was introduced to drugs by his piano teacher three years ago and became "disconnected from reality" through heroin use to measure the risks.

## China's AIDS cases top 1,100

PEKING (AP) — The number of people in China infected with the AIDS virus has risen to 1,106, and 10 have died, the nationally televised evening news has reported. Last September, the Public Health Ministry said China had 932 people who tested positive for AIDS, and nine had died. The television report did not give any details about the 10 who died, or break down the number of people who have tested positive for AIDS. But it said AIDS victims in the West were mostly drug addicts living in border areas. China "shares its southwestern border with the 'golden triangle' countries of Burma, Laos and Thailand, which produce most of the world's heroin and opium. Drug trafficking through China has increased dramatically in recent years, leading to a similar increase in the number of intravenous drug users. The AIDS virus can be spread by sharing contaminated needles."

## Renovated Matisse Museum opens in Nice

NICE, France (R) — The Henri Matisse Museum, expected to be a major tourist attraction on the French Riviera, reopened in Nice Friday after six years of renovations. Housed in a 17th-century Italian-style villa, the museum now contains nearly 600 paintings, drawings, engravings and sculptures by the French artist. A modern wing has been added to house monumental works such as the Flowers and Fruit panel and several bronzes. French Culture Minister Jacques Toubon, who officially opened the museum in the presence of three of the painter's grandchildren, said most of the works displayed were gifts from Matisse or his heirs. They include the famous Window On Tahiti (1935), Nymph In The Forest (1935) and Still Life With Pomegranates (1947). There are also preparatory sketches for the "dance" series. Matisse first wintered in Nice in 1917. Attracted by what he called its "brilliant and tender" light, he settled there in 1938 in a flat near the villa which now houses his works. He died in Nice in 1954 aged 87. The French Riviera has a rich collection of museums devoted to great artists who lived there, including Pablo Picasso in Antibes and Vallauris, Marc Chagall in Nice, Fernand Leger in Biot and Auguste Renoir in Cagnes-Sur-Mer.

## French minister, chemists agree on cheap condom

PARIS (R) — French chemists have agreed to cut the price of condoms to one franc (16 cents) each from four francs (68 cents) to help fight AIDS, Health Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy said. He told reporters the country's 22,000 chemist shops would cut the price by November, some of them starting in August. "Condoms are too expensive... it is unacceptable that a young person be infected by AIDS for lack of money," he said. It was not immediately clear how the price cut would be funded. Condoms are currently selling for two francs (34 cents) in supermarkets but Mr. Douste-Blazy said eight out of every 10 French people preferred to buy them from chemist shops.



## SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

## Olympic athletics great Archie Williams dies

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Archie Williams, a black athlete whose Olympic 400m victory helped thwart Hitler's bid to use the 1936 Games as Aryan propaganda, has died at the age of 78. Williams won the 400m in 46.5 seconds at the 1936 Games in Berlin, though nearly all of the attention went to his teammate Jesse Owens, who won three golds. Much was made of Hitler's refusal to acknowledge Owens, but in a 1981 newspaper interview Williams recalled that the United States in the same era offered few opportunities to blacks. "As I recall, when I came back home... people asked me, 'how did those dirty Nazis treat you?'" To which I always replied, "Well, over there at least we didn't have to ride in the back of the bus." He also said he felt the German people were more curious about, than hostile toward, black athletes.

## Courier victim of burglary at Wimbledon

WIMBLEDON (R) — Former world number one Jim Courier lost possessions worth 5,000 pounds sterling (\$7,300) when the house he is staying in during the Wimbledon tennis tournament was burgled, police said Saturday. Burglars broke into the five-bedroom house Friday and escaped with a mountain bike, videos, a watch, a compact disc player and a guitar. "Other effects were also taken and their total value is about 5,000 pounds," a Scotland Yard spokeswoman said. A police source said the American third seed also had a bag of sports gear taken but did not lose any tennis rackets.

## Top Marseille official taken to hospital

MARSEILLE (R) — A senior Marseille club official was taken to hospital Saturday, hours before police visited his home in connection with allegations that the European champions tried to rig a match against Valenciennes. Club general secretary Jean-Pierre Bernes was suffering from a heart problem, an aide said, but gave no other details. A Valenciennes player, Jacques Glassman, has alleged that Bernes and Marseille midfielder Jean-Jacques Eydelie offered players from his team money to play badly in a crucial match on May 20. Marseille went on to win the French title. Both Eydelie and Bernes denied making the call and Bernes counter-attacked by filing a suit against persons unknown.

## Longtime track greets lose in Indy Games

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Longtime track greets Evelyn Ashford, Greg Foster and Larry Myricks competed in the United States for the final time Friday night, each coming up with a losing effort at the 1993 Mazda Indy Games. Ashford, a four-time Olympic gold medalist, finished dead last in the women's 100-meter dash with a time of 11.57. "This was the last race and it is time to go on U.S. soil," Ashford said. "I started in America and I ended in America. It'll be nice to get out of the spotlight." Mike Powell won the men's long jump competition with a distance of 27-10 1/4, far short of his world record of 29-4 1/2. Other winners included Olympic gold medalist Dennis Mitchell, who posted a 10.18 in the 100 meters, and fellow Olympic winner Gwen Torrence, who took the women's 400 in 50.37.

## France sets Med. Games medal record

NARBONNE, France (AP) — France set a total medal record for the Mediterranean Games Friday as it continued its domination. France passed Italy's 1991 total of 168 medals by moving its count up to 171 with Friday's competition. It upped its gold medal count to 75, already a record. France's rugby team won the expected gold with a 31-6 victory over Italy in the final match of the top two teams of the round-robin tournament. It was the first French team victory of the games. The tennis final in the men's competition was an affair between two players who had exploits on the men's professional circuit as Younis El Ayanaoui of Morocco beat Jordi Barillo of Spain. El Ayanaoui made the final of the Casablanca tournament earlier this year while Barillo beat Boris Becker in Barcelona last year.

## 'Pinto becomes 3rd player to quit Benfica'

LISBON (R) — Portuguese international striker Joao Pinto has become the latest player to quit cash-strapped Benfica after his pay cheque bounced, Portugal's A Bola newspaper reported Saturday. A Bola printed a copy of a fax it said Pinto sent to the club Friday in which the player said he was rescinding his contract. Portuguese radio reported that Benfica vice-president Alberto Silveira had refused either to confirm or deny Pinto's departure. Pinto's reported move follows similar action by midfielder Paulo Sousa and winger Antonio Pacheco earlier this week.

## FIFA suspends 3 Argentinian players

ZURICH (AP) — FIFA's disciplinary committee on Friday suspended Jose Nicolas Latorre, Matias Bisco and Cesar Zinelli of Argentina for two years. FIFA, soccer's governing body, imposed the penalty for what it said were serious incidents during the Jan. 24 match between their club, River Plate, and Colombia in an international tournament. In addition, the players were fined \$5,000 each and the team was fined \$33,112. Walid Al-Azzni of Kuwait was suspended for two years for violence against the referee in the World Cup match against Macao on May 16. The player and the Kuwait Football Association were jointly fined \$25,000.

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- Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠A ♣KQJ1073 ♠9  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
What do you bid now?
- Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠A ♣KQJ1073 ♠9  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠  
What do you bid now?
- Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠Q104 ♣KQ ♠Q1042 ♠J1072  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass ?  
What action do you take?
- Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AQ654 ♣Q1063 ♠J6 ♠95  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
2 ♣ Dbl Pass ?  
(=weak)  
What action do you take?
- Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠Q984 ♣Q764 ♠AK ♠KQ6  
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one club. What action do you take?
- Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠Q98 ♣Q764 ♠AK4 ♠KQ6  
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one club. What action do you take?

## Navratilova barely warms up; Becker, Agassi advance at Wimbledon

WIMBLEDON (R) — Martina Navratilova barely warmed up on a blustery number one court at Wimbledon Saturday, dispatching Canada's Patricia Hy 6-1 6-0 in 41 minutes.

The 36-year-old second seed showed no sign of losing her edge to age, serving, volleying, clipping and smashing like a youngster.

Cambodian-born Hy, ranked 38 in the world, resisted only into the second game, which she won on serve.

After that, Navratilova, the veteran of the tournament now that Jimmy Connors has called it a day, wrecked the 27-year-old's confidence.

Hy cursed herself as she sent balls wide, missed apparently easy volleys and double-faulted on crucial points.

It was the quickest of Navratilova's matches so far this Wimbledon, though none has lasted an hour. She beat Michelle Jaggard-Lai 6-2 6-1 in 52 minutes, followed by Ros Fairbank-Nideffer 6-0 6-4 in 59.

But her biggest rival for the title, top seed Steffi Graf, has hardly suffered either. The German defending champion has lost just three games in her journey to the fourth round.

Boris Becker and Andre Agassi survived second-set stumbles as the major players stayed on course for greater glory at Wimbledon.

Becker continued to demonstrate the ominous increase in form and confidence that he hopes will bring him a fourth Wimbledon title as he subdued close friend Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland 6-3 3-6 6-2 to reach the last 16.

Then he joined the growing ranks of players who say they have no objection if Agassi battles in the Wimbledon spotlight.

"I think I'll have to cut some hair off my chest and then I'll get the same attention. But that's fine with me," he said in reference to Agassi's earlier disclosure that he has done just that.

Agassi, the holder, lost the second set through little fault of his own before rolling remorselessly past Australian Patrick Rafter 6-1 6-7 6-0 6-3, winning nine games in a row in the third and fourth sets of their third round match.

Later he dealt ruthlessly with the reporter who quizzed him on his thoracic hair Wednesday and who said Friday he thought Agassi owed a further explanation.

"Somewhere along the line I gave the impression I care what you think?" Agassi asked. And when the reporter admitted going to Agassi's rented house, Agassi said calmly: "Don't do that any more, please."

In the women's singles, top seed Steffi Graf played at a level that might leave even Navratilova, her only serious rival for the title, with little chance of success should they meet as expected in the final.

Graf whitewashed hapless Canadian Helen Kelesi 6-0 in just 34 minutes, four minutes fewer than she took in a similar shut-out of Australian Kirrily Sharpe in the opening round.

The only seed beaten in either singles on day five of the championships was women's number 10 Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria, the youngest of the three sisters who were seeded 10th, 11th and 12th here.

All were eliminated early, Magdalena leaving last in a 6-4 6-2 defeat by Yayuk Basuki of Indonesia.

Top men's seed Pete Sampras overcame stiff first-set resistance from Byron Black of Zimbabwe before sailing through 6-4 6-1 6-1 while German Michael Stich, the sixth seed who won at Queen's two weeks ago, about Christo Van Rensburg of South Africa 6-3 6-4 6-4.

But Stich could have problems in Monday's fourth round against Czech 11th seed Petr Korda, who put out tough American Derrick Rostagno by the same score. Korda holds a 5-1 lifetime edge over 1991 Wimbledon champion Stich.

Agassi can also look ahead to an uncomfortable time on Monday against dutch giant Richard Krajicek, the ninth seed who advanced with a 6-2 7-5 6-2 win over Italian qualifier Laurence Tielemans.

But Agassi may have some moral support in that match — if he needs any more than he already gets from his rabid Wimbledon fans — in the person of his close friend, singer-actress Barbra Streisand.



Wimbledon's heart-throb Andre Agassi, blows kisses to a doting fans who screamed in delight when he changed shirts (AFP photo)

He said he expected her along at the tournament soon, next week or possibly sooner.

Becker, wearing his regular Chicago Bulls basketball cap — "because I admire Michael Jordan very much," he said — used to train a lot with Hlasek when they both worked with guenter Bosch.

Dashing Frenchman Henri Leconte, one of Wimbledon's favourite sons, earned a fourth round clash with Becker by beating American Aaron Krickstein 7-6 6-3 6-2.

Agassi, whose wrist tendinitis almost kept him out of the tournament, continued to show no evidence of the injury that sidelined him for two months.

"My wrist is fine and I am hitting the ball as hard as I want. I've never really struggled with that. Power is not a problem."

Britain's much maligned men's squad put a player into the fourth round for the second straight year

— Jeremy Bates managed it in 1992 — when Andrew Foster advanced past Russian Andrei Olhovskiy, who withdrew through illness at 6-3 6-5 down.

Graf could not recall achieving two shut-outs — spectacles (0-0) in tennis parlance — at any major championship in the past.

She was not inclined to show Kelesi any mercy. "I wish she had played better because I know she can play better. But I think it's wrong to lose a few games just to make the score look better," she said.

"I feel very good," added Graf, who had a foot injury last week.

Seventh seed Jennifer Capriati, stood at one set-all against Brenda Schultz after the Dutch woman played an outstanding game to break the American to love and win the second set. But Capriati blew her away in the decider to win 7-5 4-6 6-2.

World Cup preliminaries  
Iran crush Taiwan 6-0

TEHRAN (AP) — Ali Asghar Modirrosta scored four goals to help push Iran to a 6-0 soccer victory over Taiwan Friday in the first round of the Asia Group B qualification tournament for the 1994 World Cup. The halftime score was 3-0.

Earlier in the day, Oman tied 0-0 with Syria in a game at the Azadi Stadium in the Iranian capital.

Against Taiwan, Hamid Reza

Estili scored Iran's first goal in the 18th minute. Modirrosta followed with goals in the 38th, 46th, 50th and 75th minutes. Ali Daie scored in the 42nd minute. 80,000 fans attended the match. Iran is now tied for first in the group with Syria, at 3 points apiece. Oman trails with 2 points, while Taiwan is at the bottom of the group with no points.

Syria had defeated Taiwan 2-0, and Oman drew 0-0 with Iran in the tournament earlier matches.

## STANDINGS

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts.
Iran	2	1	1	0	6	0	3
Syria	2	1	1	0	2	0	3
Oman	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
Taiwan	2	0	0	2	0	8	0

## No linesmen at U.S. Open!

WIMBLEDON (AP) — As usual, there's no shortage of grumbling and cursing at the linesmen at this year's Wimbledon. But come the U.S. Open, those complaints will fall on deaf ears.

That's because the United States Tennis Association has announced that machines — not living, breathing linesmen — will rule the roost on its four show courts during the upcoming Open, which starts August 30 at Flushing Meadows, New York.

The Tel-System, an electronic line-calling device designed to eliminate human error, will be determining fair balls from ones that stray. Instead of 10 officials, the four courts will only require four — the umpire, a net cord judge and two foot-fault judges.

It's a utopian concept that could render the perfectly officiated match. Yet reaction to the Open's bold move to bring 21st century technology to tennis is receiving decidedly mixed reviews from the players at Wimbledon.

"I don't think it's a good idea," said Goran Ivanisevic, last year's losing Wimbledon finalist and a guy who's been known to raise a ruckus or two on the court. "It's more fun if you have someone to tell something to. With machines you can't do anything. I think it's going to change the game. But what can you do? You have to go out there, play and beat a machine."

Pete Sampras doesn't like it, either. He says the fans will miss those temper tantrums that have become a part of the game.

"I think it takes a lot of the personality out of the game," the World No. 1 said. "That's why people come to watch tennis — the way people react to different situations, with line calls and the outbursts."

Surprisingly, John McEnroe, the man who made such outbursts an art form, has praise for the technological improvement. "I think it's a good idea," said McEnroe, in town to commentate for NBC's Wimbledon coverage. "I think it enhances tennis be-

cause it focuses more on the tennis."

The biggest concern for most players is an unfamiliarity with the new system. Many think it should undergo a few trial runs at smaller events.

"I can't imagine them trying that at the U.S. Open," said Andre Agassi.

"I think they should try it somewhere else first."

Players also voiced concern that the system will not be used on all the courts at the Open, which could mean having to adjust from machine to man and back several times during the tournament.

But Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere, the elder of the three tennis-playing Maleeva sisters, is looking forward to the new era.

"There's been so many times I've lost matches because of bad calls," Maleeva-Fragniere said. "So often the umpire makes mistakes. The player can lose confidence in linesman, but maybe have confidence in the machines."

"We have the ability to go beyond the human eye," said Steve Devos, the U.S. Open tournament director, in New York. "Hopefully, the players understand it's our belief we can improve the fairness and accuracy of line calls with this system. We know that anytime there's something new, it takes to educate people about it."

The system, is different from the electronic cyclops machine, which has been used to judge the accuracy of players' serves at many tournaments — including Wimbledon — for several years.

The new system made its debut at the last year's U.S. Open, where it was used in the final of the men's over-35 event. It was also used there on a secret basis during 45 men's and women's matches, which were officially called by lines crews. The test results found of the 2,956 balls that were within 12 inches on either side of the lines, there were 301 instances in which the linesman differed from the verdict of the electronic system.

## Argentina, Brazil clash in S. American quarterfinals

GUAYAQUIL (AFP) — Giants of the footballing world, Argentina and Brazil, meet in the quarter-finals of the South American football championships Sunday following 10 days of hotly-contested group matches.

The contest provides Brazil with the perfect opportunity to avenge themselves of the unfortunate Italy 1990 World Cup setback when she spurred a host of chances before letting in the only goal of that quarter-final courtesy of some Maradona magic and Caniggia finishing.

The absence of both these players, Maradona sadly out of form and Caniggia held on suspicion of drug-related offences, bodes well for Brazil, yet Argentina remain a potent threat.

Recently, the Argentine manager of the successful 1986 campaign, Carlos Bilardo, has openly admitted his awareness that most of his players had been on drugs at that time, according to press reports.

This kind of scandal appears to

be rare in South America — Higuaita, the blundering goalkeeper of Italy 1990, is also missing from the tournament, held in jail on drug charges.

He is said to have links with the fugitive Colombian drugs baron Pablo Escobar.

Following a number of shock results in the round-robin matches over the past week, the three favourites for the South American Cup, Uruguay, defending champions Argentina and Brazil have each struggled to qualify only in second place in their respective groups.

Although the Uruguayans and Argentines may claim to have coasted through, the same cannot be said of an apparently second-string Brazilian outfit.

Perhaps with Pele's disparaging comments about their performance to date ringing in their ears, they pulled off a convincing, comprehensive defeat of Paraguay.

Chile, who earlier vanquished the redoubtable Brazil 3-2, might well consider themselves unlucky not to qualify.

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T O D A Y	<p>Cinema Tel.: 677420</p> <p><b>CONCORD</b></p> <p><b>A FEW GOOD MEN</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:00, 5:45, 8:15, 10:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Cinema Tel.: 699238</p> <p><b>PLAZA</b></p> <p><b>The Forgotten</b> Shows at 11 a.m., 3:00, 5:30, 8:30, 10:30, 12:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Cinema Tel.: 634144</p> <p><b>PHILADELPHIA</b></p> <p><b>GHOST</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Tel.: 675571</p> <p><b>Nabil Al Mashini Theatre</b></p> <p>For the first time in Amman you have a play with the National Palestinian Theatre — the Gaza Strip — in a play entitled: <b>The Assassination of Hanthalah</b> by artist Saeed Bitar Shows on Friday and Saturday, June 4 and 5 at 8:30 p.m. Please book seats in advance.</p>	<p>Nabil &amp; Hisham's Tel.: 625155</p> <p><b>AHLAN THEATRE</b></p> <p>The last two weeks - Welcome New World Order - Welcome Parliament and Budget The theatre will close as of 11.7.93 in order to start presenting two new plays: <b>Welcome an Arab Summit and Nabil and Hisham in School during the Jerash Festival</b></p>
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# World adopts new document on human rights

VIENNA (Agencies) — More than 160 nations hailed a new declaration on human rights as a historic document that will give hope to people across the globe but activists said it would do little to end the suffering of millions of abuse victims.

Delegates of the U.N. World Conference on Human Rights adopted the document by acclamation Friday after two weeks of debate overshadowed by the war in Bosnia less than 400 kilometres from Austria's borders.

"We leave Vienna with the accomplishment of hope... and understanding that the commitment has been laid for future progress," the conference secretary-general, Ibrahim Fall of Senegal, told delegates before the forum was brought to a close.

Despite hours of haggling over the 32-page document, negotiators failed to agree on the most controversial issue of establishing a U.N. rights supreme with the power to report an individual state for violations to the U.N. Security Council.

To save further delay in issuing the final declaration, the conference decided to pass on the controversial issue to the next session of the U.N. General Assembly.

The document also laid the groundwork for setting up an international court to prosecute "crimes against humanity," but it stopped short of approving a tribunal proposed by some countries to punish lesser violations of human rights.

The many provisions of the 32-page declaration will have to be measured by the rights situation in individual countries.

In a joint statement, several non-governmental organisations criticised "weak and vague language" in the final document, which "fails to commit governments individually or jointly to concrete measures for the protection and promotion of human rights."

Private groups, however, hailed the meeting as boosting the cause of women, children and native peoples.

"The U.N. has finally begun to reverse its historic neglect of women's human rights and to address the global phenomenon of violence against women," said Reed Brody, director of the Washington-based International Human Rights Law Group.

John Shattuck, U.S. assistant secretary of state for human rights, said women's human rights groups "have indeed achieved a tremendous success."

The U.S. government protested the deletion of a denunciation of anti-Semitism from the final statement. The document's drafting committee, unable to reach agreement on a paragraph enumerating abuses, deleted anti-Semitism from the statement.

Pierre Sané, secretary-general of Amnesty International, said the universal nature of human rights was reaffirmed in Vienna.

However, Mr. Sané, in a telephone interview with the Associated Press from Denton, Texas, said: "We regret... (that) this conference will be a summit of missed opportunities. They could have taken some decision that could have been attached to this declaration." He did not elaborate.

By contrast, Alois Mock, Austrian foreign minister and president of the meeting, told reporters: "The political pressure to

respond to human rights will become much stronger as a result of the conference."

And Mr. Fall said the meeting "will mean for us in the U.N. a more vigorous approach to human rights."

The conference urged the U.N. General Assembly to consider establishing "a high commissioner for human rights for the promotion and protection of all human rights."

Western delegates said they would have liked to see stronger language on this and other provisions adopted by the conference.

German chief delegate Gerhart Baum said that while the decision on establishing a high commissioner still has to be made by the General Assembly, the Vienna decision was a vital step.

"It would have been impossible ever to prevail in the General Assembly if opponents could have said the world conference couldn't even agree on a human rights commissioner," he said.

Hardline China had warned the West to back off and said human rights were the responsibility of the state.

"Other countries have no right to interfere," China's Deputy Foreign Minister Liu Huaqing said in his address last week. China was supported by communist North Korea and Vietnam.

Beijing may have finally laid its way on that issue but failed to stop Tibet's roving ambassador of peace the Dalai Lama from entering the conference centre.

Killing and continued "ethnic cleansing" in Bosnia hung over the conference like a cloud. In a moving speech, Bosnia's Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic pricked the conscience of many delegates by describing horrors taking place in his country while nations were extolling progress in human rights.

Delegates agreed to send a resolution to the U.N. Security Council and Mr. Silajdzic's pleas for action were taken up by Islamic nations who threw the conference into disarray on Thursday by forcing a vote on a special declaration on Bosnia.

Most Western nations abstained, unhappy over the call to lift an arms embargo against the Muslim-led government. Some delegates said privately they doubted whether any of it would make any difference.

The Vienna declaration and programme of action was agreed by consensus but human rights activists said it was a waste of time and branded the conference a summit of lost opportunities.

"There has been no reprieve for the victims as governments fine-tuned their official declarations and reaffirmed the 50-year-old core values of universality, indivisibility and interdependence," Amnesty International said.

Representatives from more than 1,000 non-governmental organisations who held a parallel conference described the declaration as vague, long on words and short on action.

Original plans to set up checks and monitoring missions to states suspected of abuse were deleted from the final text. Instead, U.N. bodies were asked to cooperate with states.

But activists welcomed the passages promoting the rights of women, children, the disabled and minorities, saying it could lead to some improvements if governments took them seriously.



ARAFAT MEETS JACKSON: Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat Friday discussed the Middle East peace process with American black leader Jesse Jackson (right). Mr. Arafat received Mr. Jackson at his headquarters in a Tunis suburb after the American civil-rights campaigner arrived from Tripoli, Libya, where he met with Muammar Qaddafi. The agency said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman discussed with Mr. Jackson "the deteriorating situation" in the Israeli-occupied territories (AFP photo)

## 'Secret' Tory funds reported

LONDON (AFP) — Hidden Conservative offshore bank accounts and new secret party donors were reported Saturday by British newspapers, fuelling suspicions of impropriety in a burgeoning row over secret party funding.

The Independent newspaper reported that Tory officials had asked the former head of car dealer Nissan UK, Octa Botnar, to channel substantial donations to the party through secret offshore bank accounts so they could not be identified.

Suggestions of illegality or corruption within the Conservative Party funding system have been rife since it was discovered that tycoon Asil Nadir, who jumped bail and fled to northern Cyprus to escape fraud charges, had made undeclared donations to the party.

The labour opposition claims the money, £440,000 (\$660,000) helped secure a valuable offshore tax status for Mr. Nadir, and it was alleged that he had tried to buy a knighthood.

Labour has pressed the government to return the money, claiming it was tainted because it came from some £30 million (\$45 million) allegedly embezzled from Mr. Nadir's failed conglomerate Polly Peck International.

Mr. Nadir, 52, fled Britain May 4 to his native northern Cyprus, jumping £3.5 million (\$5.25 million) bail to escape 20 charges of fraud involving the failed multinational.

As the Tory party refuses to publish its accounts in full, Labour maintains it is impossible to declare definitively that nothing improper has taken place.

In what is becoming a hunt for secret party donors, the Guardian said Saturday that Hong Kong millionaire businessman Tsui Tsun-tong, who it said has close connections to China's biggest arms company, had donated over £100,000 (\$150,000) to the Conservatives.

The Independent detailed, in a case similar to Mr. Nadir's, that two former Tory cabinet ministers — Lord Tebbit and Lord Parkinson — had interceded on car dealer Botnar's behalf in 1991 when his business was on the verge of collapse.

An arrest warrant has been issued for the 79-year-old tycoon for alleged tax fraud involving more than £97 million (\$146 million).

Like Mr. Nadir, who claims to have given £1.5 million (\$2.25 million) to Tory funds, Mr. Botnar has fled British courts and is now in Switzerland.

Mr. Botnar, again like Mr. Nadir, had close ties to the party hierarchy, sponsoring annual lunches for the cities of London and Westminster Conservative Associations.

The total worth of his sponsorship to the Tories was more than £90,000 (\$135,000), the Independent said.

In addition to this sponsorship, Mr. Botnar donated £50,000 (\$75,000) in the financial year 1981-1982 and a further £100,000 (\$150,000) the following year.

The money was donated into a secret offshore account held by the Tory party in Jersey at the suggestion of senior Tory party officials, the paper said.

The paper's source said this was prepared to a less confidential donation made to one of the party's mainland funds, such as the Industrial Fund, because of rumours of alleged unethical business practices in Nissan U.K.

TEHRAN (AFP) — Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said Saturday that closer cooperation between Iran and its Gulf Arab neighbours on regional security was inevitable because there was "no other choice."

Mr. Velayati, speaking at the opening of a seminar on regional security, said Iran and the Gulf Arab states should work for harmony and "distance themselves from conflicts and destabilising factors."

He was referring to a dispute between his country and the United Arab Emirates over the three strategic Gulf islands of Abu Musa, Greater Tunb and Lesser Tunb. "Given the atmosphere of distrust and worry which prevails, the regional countries have no other choice but to get closer," he said. "This cooperation is inevitable."

MOSCOW (AP) — Officers in the Black Sea fleet have accused the presidents of Russia and Ukraine of trying to settle political disputes at their expense and asked Russia to take the fleet under its jurisdiction. Naval staff officers, meeting at their Sevastopol headquarters in the Crimea, also called on fellow sailors to raise the czarist-era St. Andrew flag on their ships on July 1 as a symbolic pledge to preserve the fleet's integrity.

Presidents Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Leonid Kravchuk of Ukraine signed an agreement June 17 dividing the fleet 50-50 into separate navies and allowing Russia to dock its ships at the Ukrainian port of Sevastopol. The staff officers said in Friday's resolution that the arrangement may have settled some of the political and material disputes, but gave them no "social guarantees" and ignored "the future of the fleet officers, retirees and the people of Sevastopol."

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Sweden will grant Iraq 65 million kronor (\$8.5 million) in aid, hoping that Iraq will free three Swedish technicians jailed since September, the independent Stockholm daily Svenska Dagbladet reported Friday. The government allocated 50 million kronor (\$6.6 million) Thursday to be distributed through United Nations relief agencies.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### ETA claims responsibility for carbombs

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain (R) — The Basque separatist group ETA said Saturday it was responsible for two carbombs which killed seven people, including six soldiers, and injured 25 in Madrid last Monday. ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom) made the claim in a communique published in the Basque newspaper Egin, the guerrillas' regular mouthpiece.

### 11 die in heatwave in southern Pakistan

KARACHI (R) — At least 11 people died in a heatwave in southern Pakistan, where temperature rose to 41 Celsius (106 Fahrenheit), government officials said Saturday. The officials said four people died in Karachi and seven in the nearby city of Hyderabad. More than 30 people have died in the heatwave since mid-May in southern Pakistan, they said.

### Egyptian police seize weapons destined for militants

CAIRO (AFP) — Authorities in the Sinai desert seized grenades, explosives and firearms and arrested bedouin tribesmen who allegedly planned to sell the material to Islamic militants, Egyptian newspapers reported Saturday. Friday's raids in the southern Sinai netted 105 grenades, 214 sticks of dynamite, 13 revolvers, 16 automatic rifles, and 75 kilograms of TNT, the reports said. A group of bedouin implicated in the case were summoned before a military prosecution. Security forces on Wednesday seized weapons and ammunition in the northern Sinai, and authorities on Thursday dismantled two weapons-making plants in Cairo.

### Switzerland denies Iran arms report

BERN (AFP) — Switzerland has denied an Israeli newspaper report alleging that it had become over the last year the main supplier for Iran's nuclear weapons programme. Othmar Wyss, of the federal external trade relations office, said his country fully complied with decisions by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) banning the export of dual-use machine tools which can serve military purposes. "Switzerland was the first country to enforce... controls on dual use equipment," according to a list established by the OECD he said. But he admitted that "in export matters, we don't know everything. There are times when we find black sheep." The Israeli newspaper Maariv claimed in a seven-page investigation published Friday that at least 10 Swiss companies have exported material and instruments which can be used in the production of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons as well as long-range missiles.

### Sudan will attend OAU summit despite row

CAIRO (R) — Sudan's head of state, Omar Hassan Al Bashir, will attend Monday's summit of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in Cairo despite tense relations with Egypt, the Sudanese foreign minister said Saturday. Hussein Suleiman Abu Saleh told a news conference he hoped Lieutenant-General Bashir would meet Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during the summit and achieve a breakthrough in relations, which have gone from bad to worse for more than a year. Egypt accuses Sudan's Islamic fundamentalist government of supporting Muslim militants fighting to overthrow Mr. Mubarak and of claiming a triangle of Egyptian territory on their desert border. Sudan denies supporting the militants and says the triangle is its territory. "It gives me pleasure that President General Omar Al Bashir will come tomorrow to take part in the summit in view of its importance. We believe this is a good opportunity for more meetings, more consultation, more serious work to create excellent relations," Mr. Abu Saleh said.

### Cooperation on security inevitable — Velayati

TEHRAN (AFP) — Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said Saturday that closer cooperation between Iran and its Gulf Arab neighbours on regional security was inevitable because there was "no other choice."

### Black Sea officers condemn fleet division

MOSCOW (AP) — Officers in the Black Sea fleet have accused the presidents of Russia and Ukraine of trying to settle political disputes at their expense and asked Russia to take the fleet under its jurisdiction. Naval staff officers, meeting at their Sevastopol headquarters in the Crimea, also called on fellow sailors to raise the czarist-era St. Andrew flag on their ships on July 1 as a symbolic pledge to preserve the fleet's integrity. Presidents Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Leonid Kravchuk of Ukraine signed an agreement June 17 dividing the fleet 50-50 into separate navies and allowing Russia to dock its ships at the Ukrainian port of Sevastopol. The staff officers said in Friday's resolution that the arrangement may have settled some of the political and material disputes, but gave them no "social guarantees" and ignored "the future of the fleet officers, retirees and the people of Sevastopol."

### Sweden grants \$8.5m aid to Iraq

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## COLUMN

### Royal goodbye kiss is big news in U.K.

LONDON (R) — A photograph of Prince Charles and his estranged wife Princess Diana exchanging a goodbye kiss on the cheek filled Britain's tabloid frontpages Saturday, but was not seen as heralding a romantic reconciliation. Their elder son Prince William, 11, nicknamed "Willis", was seen wistfully glancing at a royal heir and his wife of 12 years. Prince Charles and Princess Diana were pictured saying goodbye after attending his school sports day. "Willis can only wish," said the Sun newspaper, holding out no hope of the couple getting back together. The Prince and Princess of Wales, as the pair are officially known, have made a few joint appearances lately in which their once ill-concealed animosity seemed to have disappeared. The Daily Express declared the royal kiss "was a sign that the bitter war of the Waleses is over" six months after their formal separation. Royalty reporters say the renewed warmth could be a public relations act, or just a return to a routine courtesy.

### Clinton catches purported half brother on phone

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton finally caught up by telephone with the man who opened his long lost half-brother. They had a "warm conversation," and the two agreed to get together some time, the White House said. Mr. Clinton reached 55-year-old Henry Leon Ritzenthaler at his home in Paradise, Calif., and they talked for about 15 minutes. It was the first time the two had spoken. "They had a warm conversation and agreed to get together at some point in the future," Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers said in a statement.

### NATO's Woerner has intestinal surgery

BRUSSELS (R) — NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner has undergone intestinal surgery in a hospital in Aachen, Germany for the second time in just over a year, alliance sources said Friday. The sources said there had been no emergency, and the operation on the 58-year-old former West German defence minister had been a success. A NATO spokesman confirmed that Mr. Woerner was in hospital and due to remain there for about two weeks, but refused to confirm the reason for his hospitalisation or which hospital he was in. Mr. Woerner, who has held the top job at NATO since 1988, underwent intestinal surgery in April last year at Aachen. He was off work for just over two weeks following the operation.

### Letterman throws a Late Night going-away party

NEW YORK (AP) — Phone the neighbours wake the kids David Letterman has exited NBC Television after 11 1/2 years hosting Late Night bringing down the curtain and the house Friday was his surprise guest Bruce Springsteen. "Here I am on Springsteen's show business event of the season," said Tom Hanks, Letterman's next-to-last guest, at a moment so heady such glorious excess might have seemed to be true. In a programme both riotous and bittersweet, filled with laughs and memories, a fired-up Letterman went seven minutes over his usual hour. Famously glib or cranky, one of America's most popular talk-show hosts even signed off with an out-of-character message to his viewers: "You have my thanks and my friendship." Then offering fond wishes to his Late Night successor, Conan O'Brien, Letterman offered his services as a guest.

### 110-year-old man to take 14th wife

DHAKA (AFP) — A Bangladeshi man, 110, who heads a clan of more than 500 relatives, says he is ready to take his 14th wife. "I can take another wife and parents will happily give me their daughter, despite my age, because I have lots of property," Rajab Ali Sarkar, said in a television interview. Mr. Sarkar, who first married at 20, said he has a very contented life with 58 children so far. The youngest is in secondary school. According to Muslim law, a man can have four wives at one time and more with the consent of his other wives. "It is difficult to manage, so I advise all not to get married 50 many times," he cautioned.

## Rights group calls on Kuwait to commute death sentences, ensure fair trials

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A prominent New York-based human rights organisation has appealed to the emir of Kuwait to commute the death sentences handed down by the state security court between June 5 and June 19 to 16 people accused of collaborating with Iraq during its occupation of the emirate.

Middle East Watch, a division of Human Rights Watch, also urged Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah to "accord all those sentenced by the state security court full judicial reviews in accordance with international safeguards of fair trials and basic principles of justice."

The appeal followed Jordanian as well as other Arab and international calls on Kuwait not to carry out the death sentences.

At least 10 men of the 16 on death-row in Kuwait are Jordanians of Palestinian origin accused of membership in the pro-Iraqi Arab Liberation Front (ALF), which was active in Kuwait before and during the seven-month Iraqi occupa-

tion beginning in August 1990, and of helping the Iraqis during the occupation.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as well as the ALF and several other PLO factions have denounced the death sentences.

The Baghdad-based ALF, in a statement issued in occupied Jerusalem in mid-June, warned Kuwait against carrying out the executions saying it would target Kuwaitis and their interests for attacks if the emirate went ahead with the sentences.

The Middle East Watch appeal, signed by Kenneth Roth, acting executive director of Human Rights Watch, was issued on the eve of the resumption of a trial of 11 Iraqis and three Kuwaitis accused of plotting to assassinate former U.S. President George Bush. If convicted, at least 12 of them could face the death penalty (see separate story).

The appeal voiced concern over "this ominous new trend" in Kuwait to impose death penalties as evidenced by the execution of one Iraqi last month and statements by

Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Abdulah Al Sabah and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah that Kuwait intends to carry out the sentences.

Middle East Watch expressed understanding of Kuwait's desire to "bring to justice those who committed criminal offences... and serious human rights violations..." but said, however, that "these efforts should not be permitted to compromise defendants' rights."

The human rights organisation voiced regret that although Kuwait had publicly stated its willingness to apply basic standards of justice, "some of those convicted by the state security court have not received fair trials."

"Especially troubling is that those who are sentenced to death for collaboration have not been accorded the special protection set forth in international standards for imposing the death sentence," it said.

The group said it believed that the court did not take into consideration the defendants' statements that their "early

confessions had been secured through torture or the fact that they were not accorded sufficient legal counsel.

"Nor did the court take into full account that the defendants may have been coerced into collaborating with the Iraqi occupiers because of their nationalities or party affiliations."

The defendants' complaints of interrogation under torture "are consistent with what Human Rights Watch found to be a systematic pattern of abuse by Kuwaiti security officials..." said the six-page appeal, a copy of which was made available to the Jordan Times.

It said the court had rejected the complaints on grounds that there were no "visible scars of ill-treatment, an unreasonable requirement considering that such abuse took place two years earlier."

Most of the accused have been in detention since March and April 1991.

Middle East Watch cited the circumstances of those arrested, including their detention and trial on a case-by-case

basis and noted that none of those was afforded the chance to choose their lawyers. Half-hearted court-appointed attorneys represented them in the trial, reports from Kuwait said.

Middle East Watch also referred to the various human rights covenants and agreements to which Kuwait is a signatory and noted that the court did not adhere to the provisions of these documents. It said the "special circumstances" of those found guilty of collaborating with the Iraqis during the occupation were not taken into consideration.

The group said the accused might have had no choice but to obey "direct orders from the Iraqi government..." and faced severe consequences if they had failed to live up to their partisan duties as defined by the Iraqi government.

Specifically referring to the 10 alleged members of the ALF, Middle East Watch noted that the front as well as the Baath Party was active in Kuwait prior to the Iraqi invasion and membership in the groups was not considered a crime. It said many Kuwaitis

were also members of the ALF and the Baath Party.

"Once Iraqi forces invaded Kuwait, members of these two groups were especially targeted by Iraqi officials to join up with the invaders," Middle East Watch said. "As part of what was considered enforcing party discipline, some were killed or imprisoned for reportedly disobeying orders. Others went into hiding or fled the country."

"A number of Kuwaiti Baath supporters are still missing or believed to be detained in Iraq. These substantial pressures should have been considered by the court in mitigation of sentence, if not guilt."

The appeal noted that all of those condemned to death during June were Iraqis or Palestinians and that as foreigners in a country under occupation they were not "reasonably expected to have the same duty as Kuwaiti citizens to resist Iraqi coercion to cooperate."

possible, the fact that the accused, not being a national of the detaining power, is not bound to it by any duty or allegiance."

The Kuwaiti state security court, it said, did not demonstrate sufficient appreciation of the differing degrees of loyalty that might fairly have been expected from those who are not Kuwaiti citizens.

"But it is one thing to insist that a Kuwaiti citizen should have resisted threats of torture and murder of himself or members of his family while he awaited the possibility that the Kuwaiti government-in-exile might be restored; it is quite another thing to hold non-citizens to the same standard."

The appeal concluded: "While we do not question the right of Kuwait to prosecute those who committed crimes during the occupation, we appeal to Your Highness to commute the death sentences imposed by the state security court as they were issued under conditions falling far short of international standards for the application of the death penalty."